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PlayStation

November 1998
Award-winning PlayStation mag

"100% independent, 100% hype-free"

plus

COP THIS!

SILENT HILL...
IT'S SCARIER THAN
RESIDENT EVIL

**IT COULD
BE YOU!**

Win over £2000
worth of the
latest games

**LOADS
OF LARA!**

Croft overload in
Tomb Raider 3

Oi bonehead!
wanna get
£5 OFF
MEDIEVIL



DON'T MESS AROUND THEN, TURN TO PAGE 45 NOW!

BIG FUN
50 new games!

Including TOCA 2, Tenchu
Michael Owen's WLS 99
Spyro, Metal Gear Solid
Gex 4 & football reaches
fever pitch in FIFA 99!

**INSTANT
EXPERT**
Game bustin'
tips to win!



DRIVE FAST, DIE YOUNG IN TOCA 2

Get strapped in for the second
part of rallying car wars...



A load of new tracks, cars and
conditions to deal with...



But the same bloody-minded
opponents! Starts p22





ORIGIN OF A SPECIES. R-TYPES.

THE ULTIMATE BLASTER



Unquestionably the greatest shoot 'em up ever created. Edge 1998



R-TYPES



RULE 76b

'The scrutineers may require the car to be dismantled by the competitor to make sure that the conditions of eligibility or conformity are fully satisfied.'

FIA Sporting regulations.





Formula One '98 Rules. OFFICIAL.


FORMULA 1 *98*
OFFICIALLY LICENSED GAME

PlayStation^{plus}

Loading

The Mix



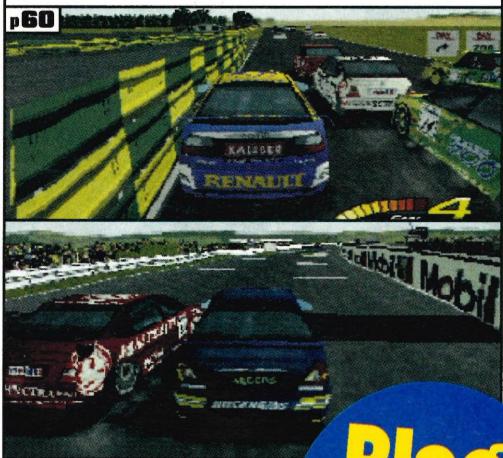
That thinking feeling

What's life like if you start acting like a game character? **p50**

Instant Expert

Be a winner every time!

TOCA **p60** First of a two-part guide...



plus Q&A **p69**

Our experts sort out all your gaming problems

Blag!

Win £2000 worth of the latest games! Turn to page 18 now!

bonehead wannna get £5 OFF MEDIEVIL

DON'T MESS AROUND THEN, TURN TO PAGE 45 NOW!

Blab **p22** Red-hot games galore!

TOCA 2 VIVA Football **Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver** **Shao Lin C3 Racing** **Tomb Raider 3**
Psybadek Libero Grande **Pool Shark** **Deep Blue** **Michael Owen's WLS 99** **Rollcage** **Gex 4**



p26 Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver

p32 Psybadek: Junior snowboarding

p32 Libero Grande: Eight-player footy

p35 Pool Shark: Ball breaking



p36 FIFA 99: Tonight we're gonna party



p38 Gex 4: President



p39 Actua Golf 3: Tees and trousers



p42 Akuji: He's bloody evil

The Works

SILENT HILL

p8 Ready for the fright of your life?



■ Kill skinless babies before they kill you...



■ Kill skinless babies before they kill you...

plus ABE'S EXODDUS

p54 He's back: this time with exploding farts!



Rated **ON TEST**

Every new release this month!

p76 **Tenchu**
Ninja-style throat-slitter

p78 **Rushdown**
Mountain speed madness

p80 **Pet in TV**
Create your own cyberpet. Or don't

p80 **V2000**
Old skooler comes good

p81 **Victory Boxing 2**
No holds barred in the ring

p82 **Bust-A-Groove**
You could be dancin'...

p84 **Moto Racer 2**
Good motorbike game shock

p86 **The Unholy War**
Religiously beating each other

p87 **Nascar 99**
Ropey racer going round the bend

p88 **Spyro the Dragon**
Cute dragon goes flamin' mad

p89 **NFL Extreme 99**
Yippee. Yank football sim

p90 **Rogue Trip**
Hit the road and hit the tourists

p92 **Biofreaks**
Robo mutants fight it out

p93 **NHL 99**
Hockey on ice, nice

p94 **V-Rally (Platinum)**
Game's at a rally good price

p95 **GTA (Platinum)**
Stolen cars going cheap

The Knowledge **p107**

All the gear and all the games, ripped apart & rated. Get clued up, get The Knowledge...

The Knowledge: updated every month

Piss off

Celebrities we hate

- 1. **Zoe Ball**
Listen carefully to Zoe on the radio. Hear how she has a lot of trouble breathing. See her has to take big, gaping breaths. See her sentences of pure crap. Listen, it be great if she had a little bit more trouble breathing?
- 2. **Chris Evans**
Just try to. Sure enough, he's a huge poster advertising Chris Evans' radio programme. Chris has written I'm a prick across his face. We like to shake that person by the hand.
- 3. **Chris Tarrant**
Just try to. Sure enough, he's a huge poster advertising Chris Tarrant's radio programme. Chris has written I'm a prick across his face. We like to shake that person by the hand.

Deathtrap Dungeon £44.99
Company: Codemasters / Players: 1 / Memory card: Link-up / Mouse: Multitap / Tom Raider-style adventure. But with swords.

Defcon 5 £49.99
Company: Sony / Players: 1 / Memory card: Link-up / Mouse: Multitap / 3D adventure with more wandering than actual exciting action.

Descent £44.99

The Works: Silent Hill first look



■ Brian's 'sitting down face' seemed strangely at odds with such an ordinary activity...

This game has been proven to cause mental illness in children at thirty paces. It can scare pensioners to death. Why? Try blood, steaming offal, flayed foetuses: it's got 'em all. In spades. And it's looking like a total peach...

Silent, but... Violent

Pointy-headed walking abortions with no skin don't get out much. They don't get girlfriends. That's why they like stabbing people in the kneecaps and gnawing on people's genitals. It's just your luck you crash your car in Silent Hill on the night an army of them are holding their annual convention there...

Buckets of blood. Gut-wrenching violence. Enough suspense to make you sweat like a fat lass. Mega-tasty graphics and video bits. Looking for a Resident Evil 2-beater? You come to the right place...

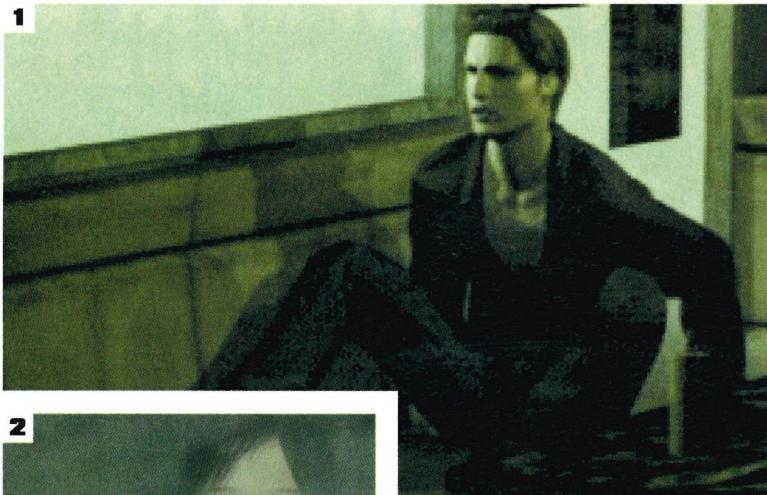


1 Yup. Multo fear guaranteed. Or your money back. Spooky shit 2 And just wait for those skinless babies to show up. Lucky brown's in this season 3 It just gets nastier and nastier 4 And the lights just get lower and lower

The Works: Silent Hill first look

Who are you?

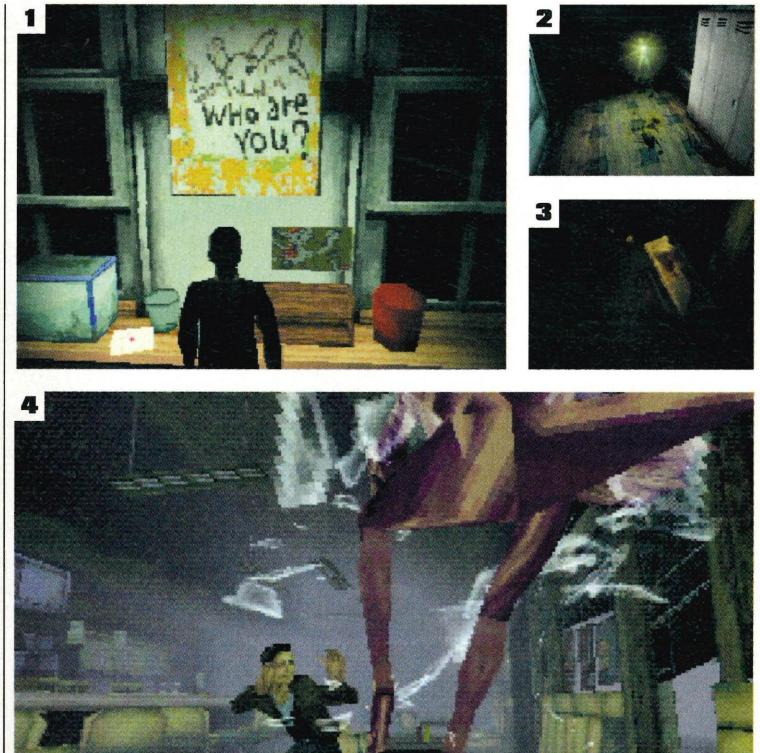
You're a clean-cut wholesome American boy straight out of the clean-cut wholesome American boy factory they've got down in Kansas. You're driving along with your clean-cut wholesome American daughter. You see a figure in the road. You crash. Daughter moseys off into the mist. You start seeing weird stuff. Welcome to Silent Hill...



1 That's you. You're a bit fazed by all these shenanigans 2 That's daughter. She only lives to colour in her 'Drawing Block' 3 Until she wanders off into the mist... and you realise all is not well in Silent Hill

Where's the gang?

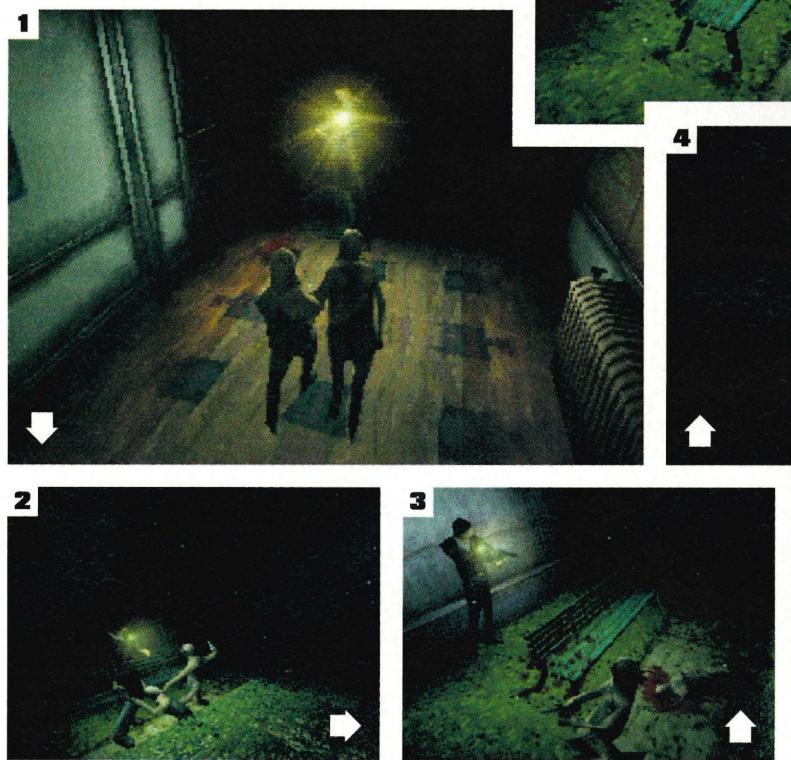
Thing about Silent Hill is it's... silent. Where is everybody? Apart from the orchestra playing sinister music in the distance, there's no sign of humans anywhere. Just skinless people and Jap's eyes for mouths. You don't have to be Einstein to figure bad shit's happening...



1 The school. No kids. Murderous foetuses. At least it's quiet... 2 As the man says. Almost too quiet... 3 Who's been sleeping in my bed? 4 Shit! What's that bloody horrible pink dog doing?

Abort! Abort!

Very rarely will you have hefted a small sidearm with so much conviction that you're doing the world a complete favour. Abortions should stay in the hospital incinerator where they belong. No way should they be wandering aimlessly around small-town America looking just a bit cocky. And which stupid bastard decided to give them knives? Time to pull out that pistol you got and finish off the surgeon's work, we reckon...



1 Urrrrggghh. Little skinless tots lurching around in the dark 2 Give 'em half a chance, and they stick little knives in you... 3 Time to unholster that gun the cop gave you. Give the little bastards hell 4 And he's out for the count. But... what's this... he's twitching 5 ...And he's getting up again. He don't look worried 6 Blam! You liked that, huh? How's about some more?

'Like a horror flick gone PlayStation'

Wossitloikethen?

So what's the big idea? Well, it's like a horror flick gone PlayStation. There's going to be plenty big-money animated film bits, stringing together a plot with all sorts of weirdo characters. But murder fans'll be pleased to hear joining up the clever bits is going to be a super-nasty third person action/adventure game with oceans of blood to be a-spilling...



■ Kill! Kill! Where is the enemy!



■ But keep the non-killing bit of your brain alert



■ Kill! Kill! Where is the enemy!



■ All glued together with tasty vid bits like this



■ And this one. Ain't they pretty?

He'll save every one of us!

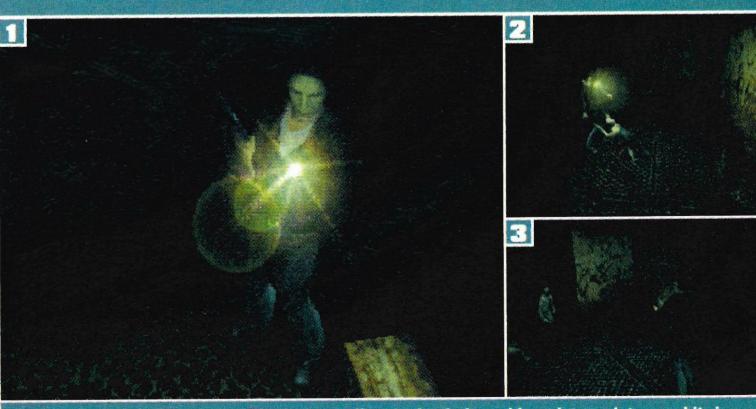
We got no problems with meeting demonic knife-wielding babies with no skin as long as it's daylight. Night-time, though, and they're a bit scary. And, it's never light in Silent Hill. Never. You get to see as much of the scenery as your two-dollar flashlight illuminates. That ain't much. And what the hell was that lurching into the edge of your beam...?



■ Welcome to the dark world. Lots o' blood



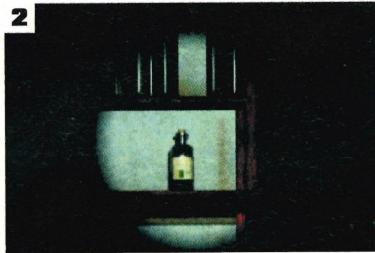
■ And scenery like this organ-covered wheel...



■ Every home should have one ■ Opening stuff up in the dark world can let you into new bits in the normal world ■ If you can get back, that is...

I no understand...

There'll be plenty puzzles, but in the demo they could be solved by a lab rat if you electrocuted it enough. We're promised brain-taxing action in the final version...



1 Hmmm. Lab chemical. Always worth a punt 2 Ahhhh. Sulphuric acid. It just gets better and better 3 An old man's hand clutching a gem. Wonder what'll dissolve that 4 Sharp lad. Bingo.

Dark side

You get to flit between two worlds in Silent Hill, the nice world and the Dark Side. In the nice world, everybody's vanished and baby pink freaks with penis lips are all over the shop. That's the nice one. The dark one's got a whole lot more offal on the walls. You got to head Dark Side, stepping carefully around the offal, to influence events in the normal world...

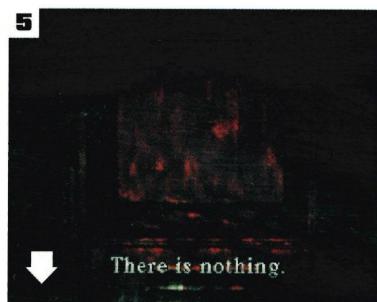
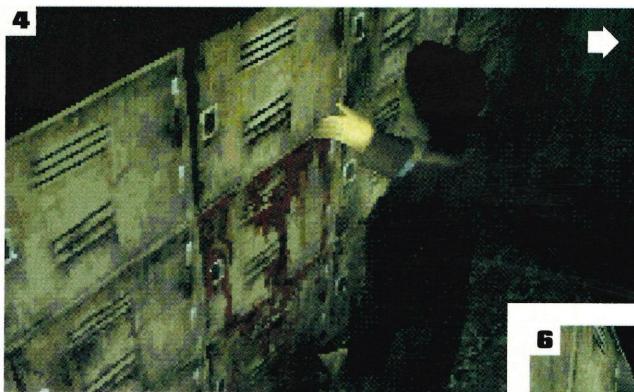
The Works: Silent Hill first look

Uggghh!

There's plenty of moments in Silent Hill where the action nearly has lunch returning to the outside world. Here's a particularly tasteful example. A blood-oozing locker which rattles like there's something inside. Is it your daughter? Is it another peeled human baby? Only one way to find out...



1 One of these lockers is making a noise 2 Open it... and a corpse falls out of the next one 3 Cheryl? You in there? 4 Now head to the dark version of the world. Nastier... 5 But the noise's still there... 6 This time it opens...



Jeezus! What is this?

You're a good parent. So when your daughter runs off into the mist, you don't just leave her to it. But there's a point at which being a good parent spills over into being a dumb bastard. That's the point where you follow her into this passage tastefully decorated with human giblets. Ditch the silly cow and go home, y'doofus!



■ Oi! Cheryl you little twat! Come to daddy!



■ Cheryl? Is that Cheryl?



■ What's going on here?



■ You can't fault the man for asking...

■ It gets darker. Then you see stuff like this

plus

We'd like to say...

Human entrails disappearing down the mucus-oozing orifices of grotesque skinless babies. 'Sick! Depraved! Nauseating!' Yeah, yeah. Can it, Grandad. We been looking for something that could out-evil Resident Evil in terms of sheer pant-wetting terror for donkey's. This could be the one. We wait in hope.

...And pass the ammunition

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! C-click! C-click! Oh, shit. Now it's your time to die. The thing is, if you try and tackle all the evil stuff in Silent Hill by just pumping out a couple kilos of hot lead every time a foetus cocks a snook at you, all you're gonna get left with is a butter knife to take on the other armies of the aborted. And that really ain't gonna be much good for your health. Trust us on this. Shoot wisely.



Nasty bits. Part deux

And it just gets worse. Cockroaches ain't the nicest of creatures at the best of times, but blow them up to poodle-sized and they're grotesque little bastards. And the further you get in, the bigger the things that are gonna be trying to turn you into steak tartare. We've even seen this horse-sized freak that can split its head in half. Some party trick...



1 Insects! Jesus. Where's some bug spray when you need it 2 ... have to rely on the trusty .38 3 But you'll need more than that to take on the big bastards later on...



1 Try to tackle stuff by blasting hot death at every bastard in your way... 2 And you'll end up on a one-way ticket to morguesville 3 You got to stay fleet on those feet if you want to survive 4 Run! Yup, we know it's cowardly, but there just ain't enough bullets to play Arnie all day



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all sorts of things,

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STAY IN CONTROL OF YOUR
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convenience of paying with
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Got something you're desperate to share with the world of PlayStation? Get writing... (If your question is just about games or tips, write to the same address, marking your envelope Q and A. We'll then print an answer in a later edition of PlayStation.)

A TWAT WRITES

Hey you 'bullshitters', you said WLS 98 is the best footy game, but it ain't nothing compared to ISS Pro. Pro's the best and 98 is much better. **Forget about the career in brain surgery, eh? We said WLS was the best footy game when it was released – which was BEFORE ISS Pro 98, which is now the best footy game** Well fools, keep up the work and don't make pathetic judgments again.

Chi-Gin Wong, Dalston

A BOGWATCHER

On Resident Evil 2 where are the bogs? **Why? Need to fire some Bovril bullets do we?**

Lee Wilson, Bristol

ANOTHER BOGWATCHER

There IS a bog on Res Evil 2, on the train when you're on the way to the secret Umbrella lab. Shame Claire doesn't stop for a dump. **Not really. Weirdo** Anyway, keep printing pics of Carla Pivonski, I hope she will be Lara. She's definitely got what it takes upstairs.

Steven Messer, Edinburgh



PROBLEMS YOU GOT WITH DOGS

A warning. We have a psychotically deranged Collie/Irish Wolfhound cross, or at least it has been that way since I bought a PlayStation 18 months ago. These days, I switch the PlayStation on and the dog sprints to the furthest available room. **Not playing Tomb Raider are we? Dogs tend to wanna protect their nads when Lara gets gunning**

Two weeks ago, as revenge, the dog lapped up a bowl of water, walked straight into the lounge and stood astride my 'Station with water dribbling from its chin straight on to number one port memory card and evidently across the terminals within. The result (on switching the machine on) of this canine terrorism was to completely wipe the memory card. Every game! Needless to say the dog spent a lot of time in the backroom that evening. **Why? couldn't you be arsed to play PlayStation any more?** I'd just like to say don't let your dog try this at home!!

Marc Hemmings, Cornwall



■ Ms Winslet: gets our award for actress with no support

FAVE LESBIANS FIGHT

Our names are Michelle and Vicki. Our mission is to provide strong opposition for Zoë and Teri – your fave lesbians. Well, we are lesbians from Gloucester and we love your mag, keep up the good pictures of the women. We do it best on Tekken 2 and could you tell Zoë and Teri if they ever want a foursome we'll give a right **There's a bit here which the lawyers wouldn't let us print and so we've censored it. Sorry, it was good, too** We'll see who your fave lesbians are now then shall we! **Y'know, we REALLY like Zoë and Teri. You are going to have to try very hard to take the special place they occupy in our hearts**

Michelle and Vicki

KATE'S BITS

Could you please put a picture of Kate Winslet next to my letter. I love her to bits.

David McMahon, Glasgow

FOOTY STUFF

I have a mega-cheat for Premier Manager 98. Select two-player mode. Pick your team then pick a team with a couple of great players, let's say Arsenal. **Oh, OK. 'Arsenal'**

Then with your team, go to transfer market, then go to database and pick Arsenal, then offer no money, no wages and a ten year contract for David Seaman and because you're playing with Arsenal, it will ask you if you accept or reject the offer from your other team. Good eh? But it gets

Bulging sack

The crumbs in his bag

I have been forced to live in the Hell that is Cheshire. People who play Rayman are dickheads.

Keir Currell, Cheshire

Hannah Darling this is just to say thank you for last weekend. You were INCREDIBLE! I haven't been able to sit down since. Much love and lust.

Penny

You probably won't print my letter but that doesn't bother me.

Aden Blenkinsopp, Warks

Gimme a picture of Charlie. PLEASE!

Terry Groves

Havant

Oh yeah, I know Yanks are stupid, but training troops with Doom?

Colin T. Carrickfergus

Everyone I know with ginger hair are complete tossers.

Ben, Dover

All ginger haired freaks should have their hair dyed pink and their freckles removed with sawn-off shotguns, then beaten to death with huge planks of wood with nails in.

Jack the Ginger Ripper, Hull

I am sorry to say this but you are wrong on saying Jenny Aniston is a 'stupid Yank'.

Damion Conners, Birmingham

better. **God, we hope it does. Our boredom levels are approaching critical**

Do this for every player you fancy from Arsenal's line-up. Then with Arsenal offer £10 million for a crap player from your team. Of course you accept. After a couple of games Arsenal will go into debt and you'll get sacked. So here's the sweet part. You will get offered another team, so you pick Man U and do it all over again. In the end your team will end up with all the great players in the Premiership on ten-year contracts, no wages and all freebies and you can still save. Also you will have a shitload of money in the bank. Am I the first to do this, and do I win a prize? **You may be the first to do it and NOT win a prize. Will that do?**

T. Ellison, Nottingham

GT DEFENDER

For God's sake get a life, RT from Tunbridge Wells. **Geezer who slagged off Gran Turismo.** So the cars in Gran Turismo don't break or flip over when you crash them into walls? Funny, I thought that the whole idea of racing games was to keep the car on the tarmac and go as fast as possible. Now, I'm shit-hot at Gran Turismo. I'd got my International A Licence before any mag had printed their solutions and I've got gold on every competition. **Wow, aren't you the big daddy? Packing an enormous schlong too, are we?**

I know that I certainly get my kicks in this way, so why all this talk about crashing into walls?



DO PLAY WITH FIRE 

Spyro the Dragon. Too hot to handle, get hold of a copy immediately.

www.playstation-europe.com/spyro

ing out for a
adventure game, but
with its own original quirky
er. OK, so we've had, but he
cute for his own good, and
tself was far from expansive.
easy charms can start to wear
a while. However, these two will
busily bowing down from the
ful character' platform with the
Spyro, the intrepid little dragon
roic exploits are finally making
debut.
in the game is to free his fire-
m the evil spell of Gnorc the
ed them all into crystal
through a vast array of
freeing all his draconic
ro can make his way
a showdown.

little...
University...
manic man...
idea of what

This collaboration is a success, as no tyke, but is also gamers young and the mischievous.

However, it's more appealing – the game's PlayStation to feature environments. The player much wander about, going from the one exception with each of the free areas, the environments.

三

SKYRIO THE DRAGON



PlayStation

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE
THE POWER OF PLAYSTATION



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Up the Foxes

Support messages for City



Who was that twat who called Leicester City 'shitty'? Because he is an utter wanker. **No great disagreement from us** If we can remember back to last season, what was the score at Villa Park? Was it by any chance 3-1. And could I say your mag is the tops and Leicester will cane Wimbledon's ass.

Mike, Leicester

Well done for an excellent mag and good luck with Leicester City FC.

S McEvoy, High Wycombe

I tend to find that crashing cars only happens to rubbish drivers although perhaps, for extra realism, the next time you want to flip cars over you should boot your telly across the room while getting a mate to give you a good kicking: for those realistic injuries **He doesn't mean it. He's just angry. Don't try that at home, kids**

Hell's bells, it's a game, you total spod, **Steady on** And I, for one, like the realistic handling and attention to driving mechanics far better than hearing crashes and bangs.

Oh, and if Colin McRae is so realistic, when did you last see a real rally car land on its roof and then magically right itself and carry on in under six seconds, EH?!! It does this because it is more FUN. So, grow up and enjoy what a game is all about instead of fretting about cars crashing and stuff.

Michael Foster, Blackpool

LAUGH AT THE GIMP

I thought that I would put you to the test, meaning that as your mag hates Spice World. So, I decided to go out and buy it. While playing it, I thought to myself what dickheads you all were. **Who us?** because the game was top. A couple of days later I realised I was the only dickhead. **Thought so** To think that a piece of shit like Spice World was good. Next time I will take your opinions seriously and Spice World is really Shite World. I do think that 21% has to be too high for a piece of crap like that. **Read and learn from this, children...**

Matt Brown, Stoke on Trent

We make PlayStation

FUN LOVIN' CRIMINALS

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STAR LETTER #2

Aren't Polo Gummies absolutely revolutionary? I'm sorry but I felt I had to share my passion for the squashy sweet with the hole with you. Keep up the good work!

Rich, N. Wales

DUNNYMAKEYERSICK

I truly sympathise with any readers of your mag who, to date, still comment that they simply can't pass Gran Turismo's International A licence tests. **Really, because they don't sympathise with you. They think you're a tosspot** I suggest they make good use of their other two licences by racing and competing, using various cars on each and every track available. **They suggest you piss off and stop patronising them**

As they progress they will be tempted to try the International A test. That is the opportune time to familiarise themselves with the handling characteristics of the Viper and the TVR. **They wish you'd familiarise yourself with the business end of a pick-axe and stop treating them like a two-year-olds**

A. Coldman, Malta

She's got the part

Who should play Lara debate

Last month you printed a piece on who should play Lara. This made some good points but, I believe that although Kate Winslet has a fine pair of charlies and Jennifer Aniston, Liz Hurley are both fit, the only person who could do Lara justice is Alex Kingston. Who I hear you ask? Moll Flanders, Dr Elizabeth Corday in ER.

Not only is she top toto she can act as well!! **Rushie, Mansfield.**



Kingston: At medipack central yesterday

Hannah vs Zoë

Zoë writes back...

The story so far... Hannah Mitton wrote to us asking for less women in the mag. Then Zoë (a lesbian) wrote saying 'pah! I like women in the mag. Print more'. Then Hannah wrote to Zoë and, boy, was she angry. Then loads of people wrote in about Hannah (so many, we felt sorry for her) saying, 'leave our mag alone'. Now it's Zoë's turn...

Heterosexual Hannah, I readily apologise for my assumption that you asked for photos of nude blokes. Re-reading your original letter, I see this is not the case. Sorry. **Ah, that's nice. They're making up**

But on the other hand, **Oh, mebbe they're not making up after all** I'm not the only one who make assumptions, am I? You

appear to have xenophobic preconceptions **Er, what?** of what a lesbian should be. I am NOT a 'breasts' person, and though I am by no means as well-endowed as you obviously are to judge from your comments, I certainly am not flat either.

I also did not suggest 'most' women are 'queer'. I wanted to put forward what I realised to be a minority observation because I knew the guys at **PlayStation** would be interested and unbiased. **You was right. Although 'interested' is a new way of putting it**

As for your fears, my interest is in a good sense of humour and a wonderful personality, so you needn't worry dear. But there's nothing wrong with good looks as part of an overall package, as I'm sure you will agree!

Zoë, Kent

DAVID'S MISERY

You have to feel sorry for my cousin David, for he was dealt the ultimate cruel punishment. For one night his girlfriend caught him doing the 'FANCY FOXROT' with another young Vixen. When he returned home - SHOCK, HORROR, DESPAIR. The love of his life was gone! His evil girlfriend had sold his beloved PlayStation and all his game collection. **Evil? How about 'serves him right? Oh, OK. Evil it is, then**

Luckily I managed to see the funny side of it, as I bought Resident Evil 2 off her for a tenner!

Derry

PS I hope he doesn't read this in **PlayStation** as I haven't changed any of the names to protect the innocent!

THICKY-PANTS WARNING!

In your August edition of your mag you had a person called Joanne Houlihan from Ireland telling Hannah Mitton if she had a problem with the human body to take it up with Sony. But your mag isn't endorsed by Sony, is it? So, why would she want to do that? **Don't bother with the Mensa application, eh? Joanne was talking about game girlies, saying that if Hannah didn't like 'em she should complain to Sony, not us. Mists clearing?**

Nick Boswell, Manchester.

Water babes

That's your mum, that is...

It was an attempt to get you to send in pictures of your birds having a bath and the bribe was a £2,000 cash prize for the winner.

We wanted a recreation of the WLS advert: blokes in the bath after a hard game on the pitch. But we wanted women. And here are the classified results...

The first prize of £2,000 goes to these four Brighton Belles, one of whom has Seaman all over her chest.

Second prize went to mother and daughter team Yvonne and Leila Smith and in third place was Miss L Taylor from Stoke on Trent.



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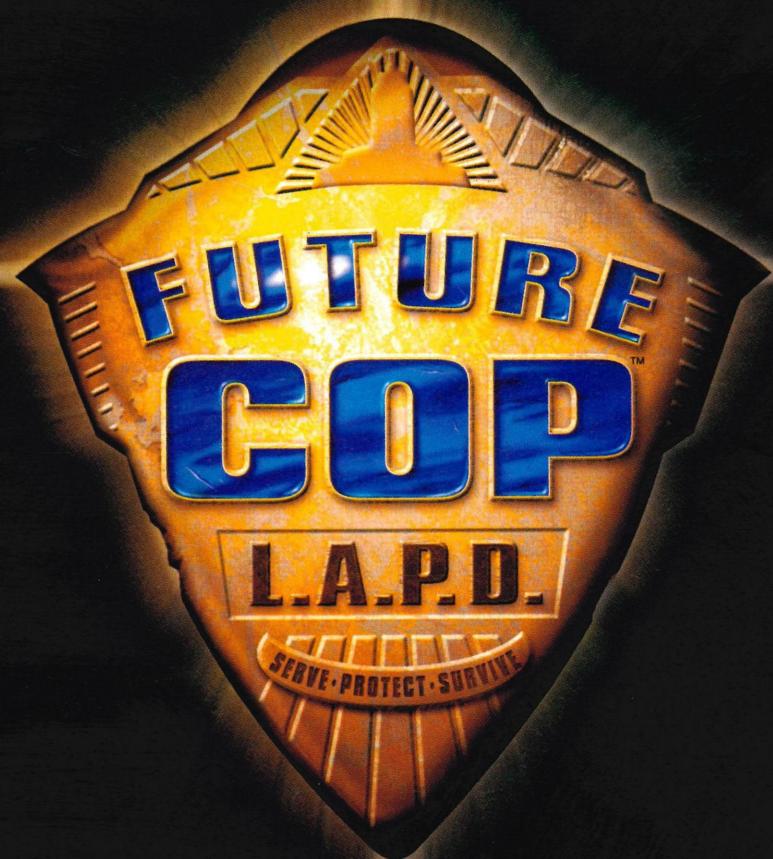
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THE RESULTS OF THE READERS' POLL WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF **PlayStation**. COMPILING THE TOP 50 IS A TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS SO PLEASE BE PATIENT – THAT MEANS DON'T PHONE US UP A WEEK AFTER POSTING YOUR ENTRY, JUST TO SEE IF YOU'VE WON. WE WON'T BE HAPPY, OK? WE'LL TELL YOU WHEN WE'RE GOOD AND READY.

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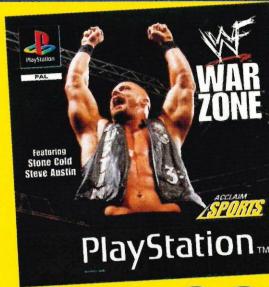


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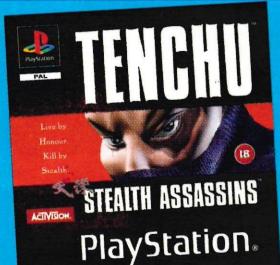


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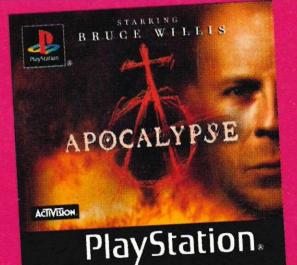


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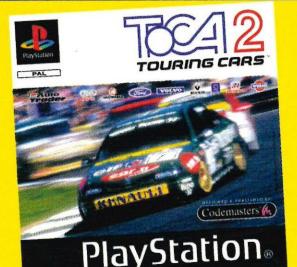


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Blab

■ p24 Viva Football
■ p26 Legacy of Kain 2

■ p27 Shaolin
■ p28 C3 Racing

Been sent to prison? A prison run by a wicked governor who's banned all games and encourages Big Jack 'Bitch Collector' Jenkins to take showers? Then this'll be torture...

■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY CODEMASTERS ■ PLAYERS 1-2 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

TOCA 2

Time to dust off those 'rally' puns. TOCA 2's coming and it looks 'rally' good...

If you spent countless waking hours working fingers to the bone on TOCA numero uno, you'll know what to expect from its sequel: yup, this baby is super-fine-looking rallying on the edge. You're gonna get to race whatever the weather: slip-slidin' stormy or sure footed sunshine. But the elements are only the half of it...

Info freaks

So, Nigel Mansell? Three kids, lives in Devon and he was born in Upton on Severn. Thanks for asking. The in-game info in TOCA 2's so in-depth even mega-spods'll probably complain: that said, the info on how to tackle the roughest corners'll go down a storm. Combine that with infinitely customisable

motors and you got plenty scope for the appliance of science...

Two's company

As well as the individual championships and single races on the slim chance you'll get bored there'll be a bundle of one-on-one action including a two-player link-up, battle modes and two player championships to contend with. It's also got seven new cars and eight new circuits including a test track.

The racing is awesome. New cars, new tracks and new rally challenges are going to make this hot to look at and damn near perfect to drive. This sequel could more than equal its predecessor.



1 Slipping on Skid Row 2 There's a joke here about going round the bend 3 You are the pits...

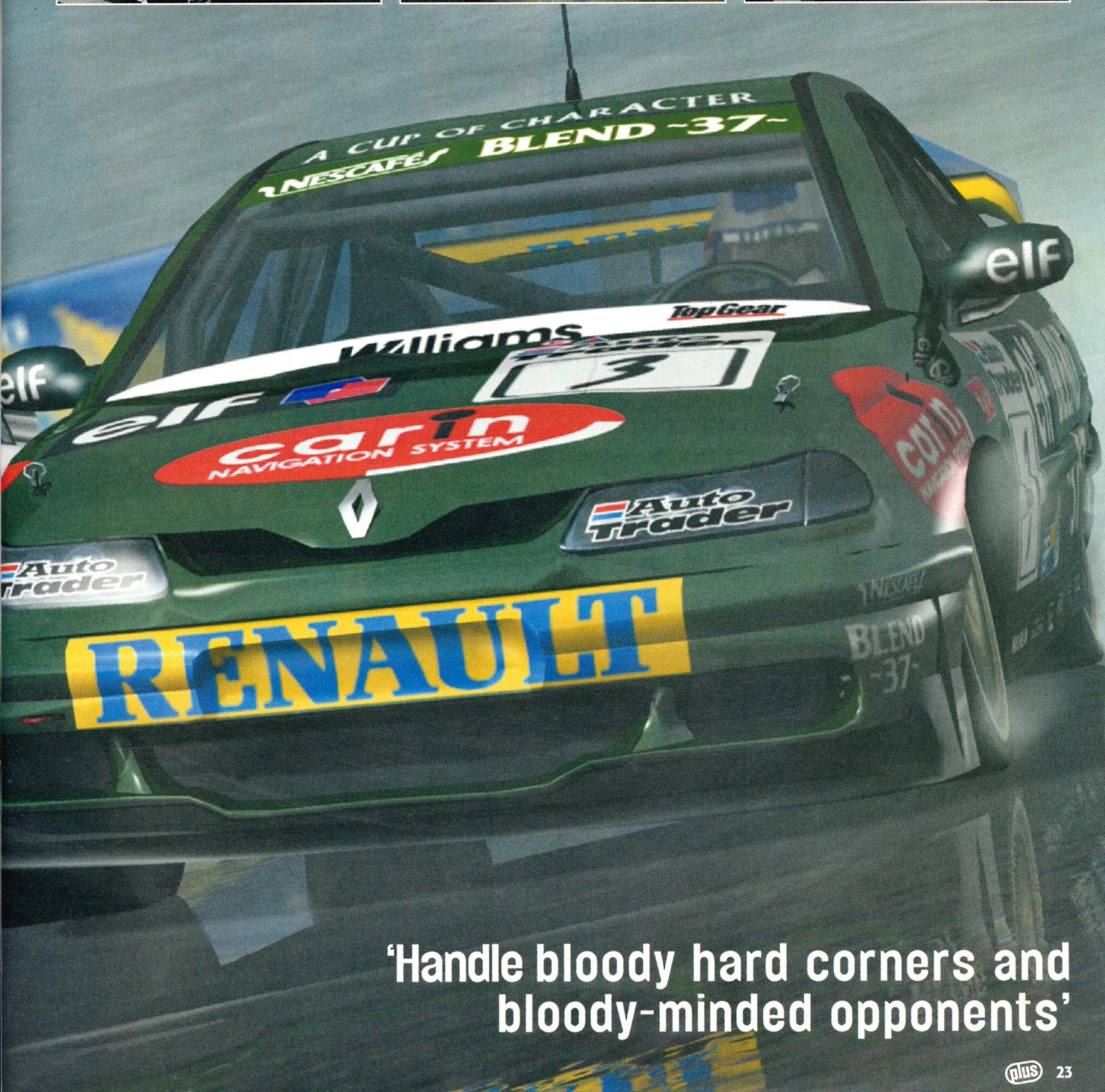
4 Check out the crash damage on the last two cars 5 There're mad new views from inside the cars 6 Driving in all shitty weather 7 Which is bad for handling 8 Scenery's cool 9 Nice bridges 10 Keep your eyes on the road 11 Your hands on the wheel 12 More poopy weather 13 Grid skid

■ p31 Tomb Raider 3
■ p32 Psybadek

■ p32 Libero Grande
■ p36 FIFA 99

■ p37 Michael Owen's WLS 99
■ p38 Rollcage

■ p40 Metal Gear Solid
■ p42 Akuji



'Handle bloody hard corners and
bloody-minded opponents'

VIVA Football

There're more footy games than foreigners at Chelsea. What's this got to offer?

Viva Football has around 30 years of World Cup history behind it. What you get here is the chance to stage your own version of the planet's biggest sporting fest without interference from the old gits who run FIFA. Smart...

Viva forever...

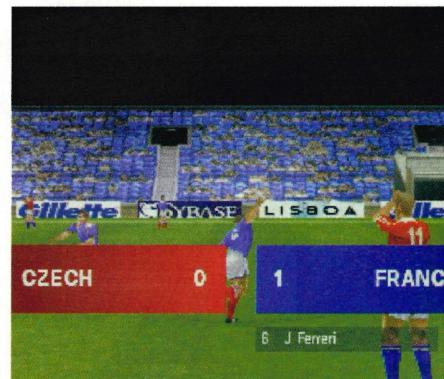
No, we're not talking about Beckham's bird's song. We're looking at an official football fiesta. Choose any country, any year, and kick off your own World Cup dream team. Play a friendly or set out to win the lot. Yep, this is your chance to coach your team to football

super stardom. And let's face it, you're no man if that's not your complete idea of heaven on earth.

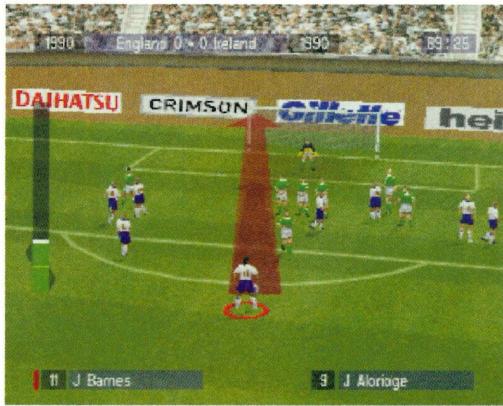
Not yet, but soon...

It's not finished yet but from what we've seen, if you're a football madman than you'll go berserk for it. However, we could do with a few more views and moves, but what we've seen is still in the early stages.

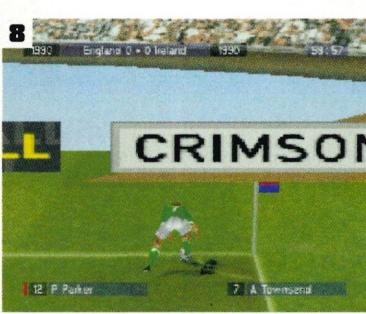
PLUS *Masses of potential, but we'll have to wait and see if it turns out to be a Brazil with loads of talent or a complete USA...*



■ World so-called heavyweights slug it out



■ Follow the large red arrow to score. S'easy...



- 1 As the players warm up the stadium goes wild
- 2 Go on Gazza, hit it in the box! 3 England's back four: solid as a rock
- 3 England's back four: solid as a rock
- 4 Shoot, shoot you fool! 5 It is truly the beautiful game, is it not?
- 5 It is truly the beautiful game, is it not?
- 6 If your players don't deliver then you know what to do...
- 7 Check the table to find out whether you qualify... it's still all to play for
- 8 Townsend shows you his backside 9 Lineker booked? Leicester's finest was always above that sort of thing
- 10 And in the English corner...
- 11 The French invade the Czech defences...



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REPORT TO A CINEMA NEAR YOU OCTOBER 23

Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver **update**

Glowing eyes! Pointy teeth! More shameless gothery than you can shake a stick at!

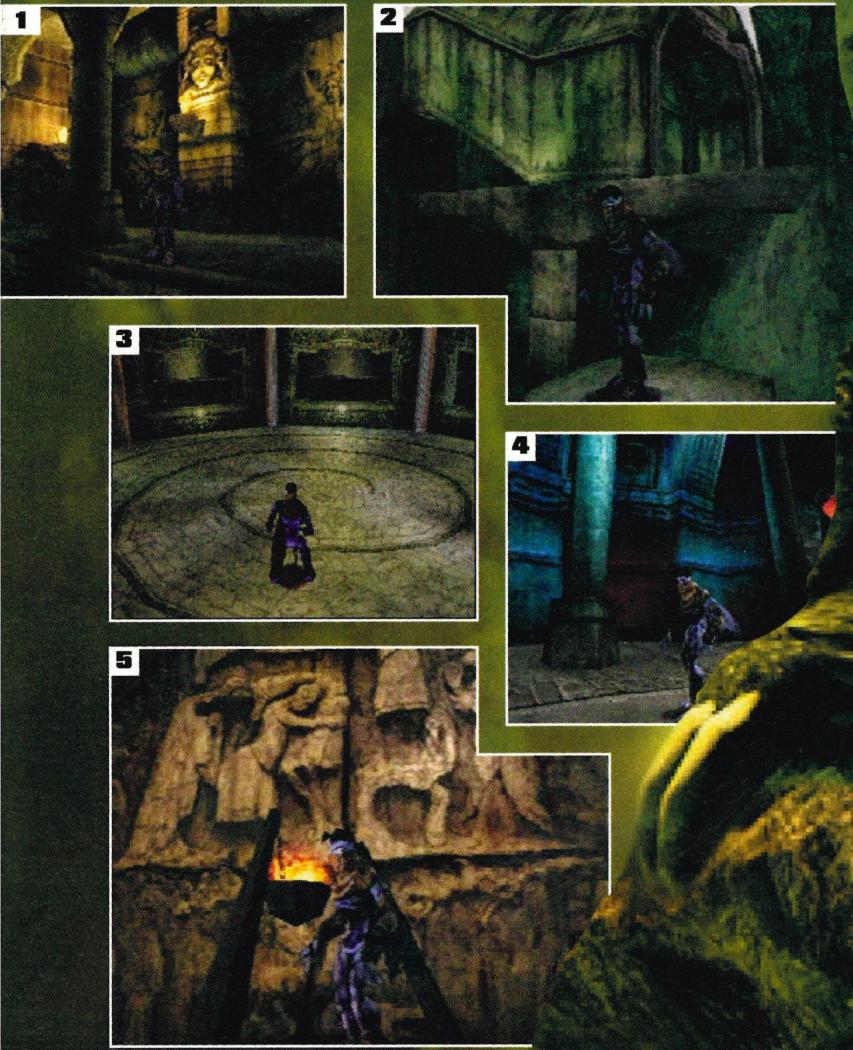
When Mr Raziel sits down in the pub for a Bloody Mary, odds are she was probably pulling pints behind the bar five minutes before. And Raziel's the good guy. Nobody's nice in Soul Reaver. But nobody. The 'baddie', Kain, is a soul-sucking über-vamp who's rather partial to a snifter of the red stuff. Raziel's boss, the Elder, is even nastier. He's this underworld god who sits in some dank shithole snacking on human souls. See? Nobody's nice...

Clever stuff

Raziel's one angry bloodsucker. Cue mucho vamp-slicing and soul-eating as he builds up powers to take on Kain at his own game.

He'll also be able to talk to other vamps and convert 'em to the cause of the Elder. Clever Raziel'll slip into a spirit world where time doesn't exist, opening up new routes and avoiding dangers. And death ain't the end for Raziel: lose enough energy and you go spirit-side – kill a couple of spirit vampires to gain energy, and it's game on again...

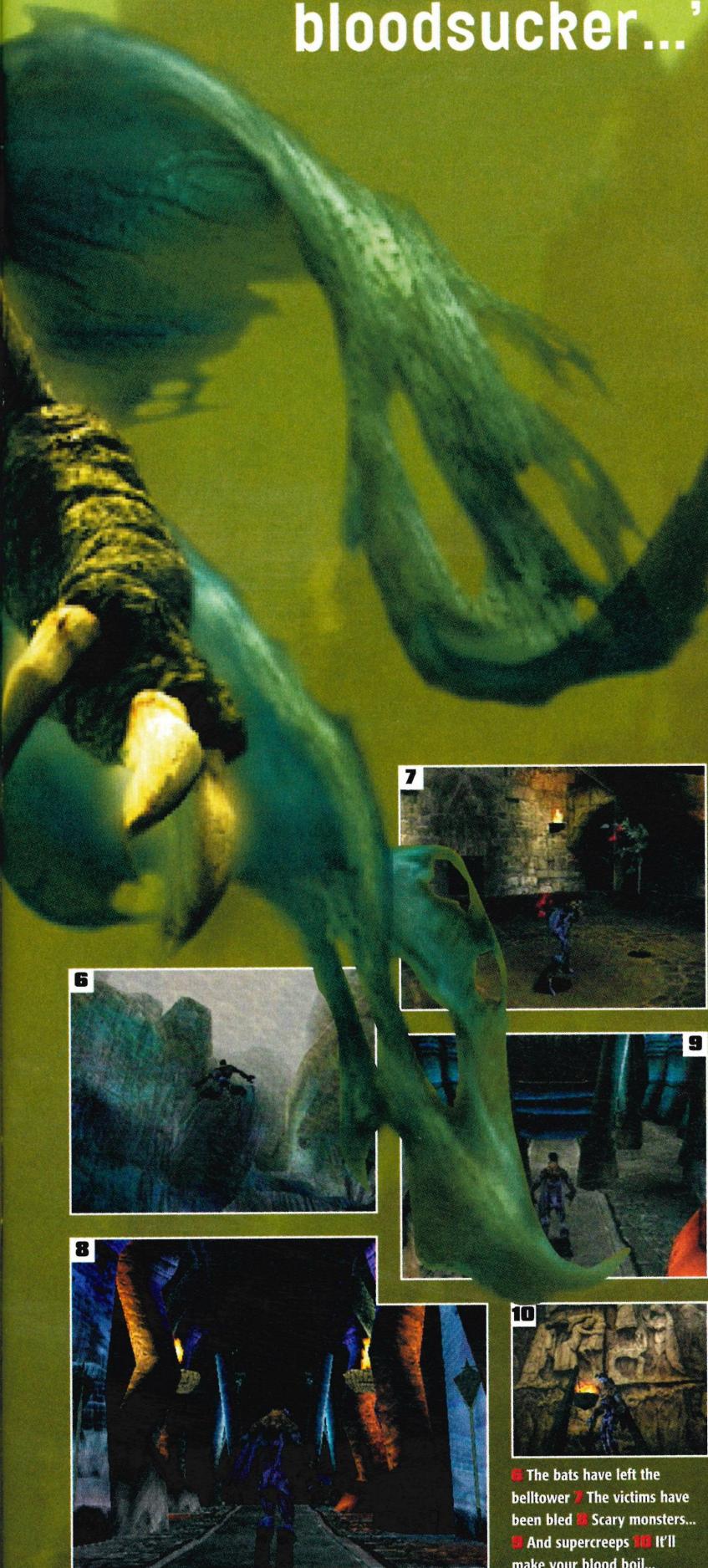
© The first Legacy of Kain had sackloads of atmos, but didn't have the graphical oomph to back it up. This one looks the business. Coming your way soon...



1 Kain had been visiting the 'goth' section of Habitat regularly 2 Nice mask, Raziel. In fact, nice name 3 Morphing into the spirit world looks well sexy 4 See? Nice blue bits 5 Raziel envied Kain his stone-carving skills...



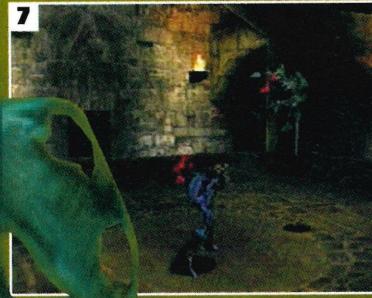
'Raziel is one nasty bloodsucker...'



6



7



9



8



9 The bats have left the belltower 7 The victims have been bled 8 Scary monsters... 10 And supercreeps 10 It'll make your blood boil...

■ OUT FEBRUARY ■ BY THQ ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Shaolin

So you fancy a fight? Put 'em up then, because the odds are stacked against you...

The one glaring problem with beat 'em ups are they're not very realistic.

There's none of this one-on-one in real life. Down the local on a Saturday night, you take a pop at someone and you can bet your ass his mates will step in and deck you. Well Shaolin's gonna set the record straight, with some full-on four-player brawls. Cool.

February time. There's gonna be a quest mode in the finished game, allowing you to build up your character as you go along. And there's plenty of different fighters, loads of martial arts styles and a nifty four-player mode where you and three mates settle your arguments over a console fight.

plus *Shaping up to be a top beat 'em up. Could be a little too hardcore for most people, though.*

Kung-Fu fightin'

Kick off by choosing your fighter and the style of martial arts you want him to practise on the other geezers. Then you're chucked into a ring with three others who proceed to smash your face in unless you can master the ancient wisdom of Shaolin. There are shitloads of moves, combos and aerial attacks to learn.

Four play

There are some cool ideas in Shaolin which could make this game a winner come

2



4



5



3



6



7



1 All of the moves are real hard
2 Check 'em out... the lady's bits wobble 3 He maybe a big fat get, but he's hard as nails
4 Three blokes and one girl... what's going on here then, eh?
5 They all have energy bars over their heads, just like in real life 6 'The crane' move - made famous in the 80s movie, The Karate Kid 7 Check it out, even his beer gut moves

■ OUT DECEMBER ■ BY INFOGRAMES ■ PLAYERS 1-2 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

C3 Racing

Not another 'Station racing game?

0 dd name for a motoring game, C3 Racing. But it's a sight more catchy than Car Constructors Championship Racing, eh? Not that it really makes much difference, 'cos with Gran Turismo already out there, any other drive 'em up is pretty much dead in the water. But does that stop the boffins churning out one after a-bleedin' other? Nope. 'Fraid not.

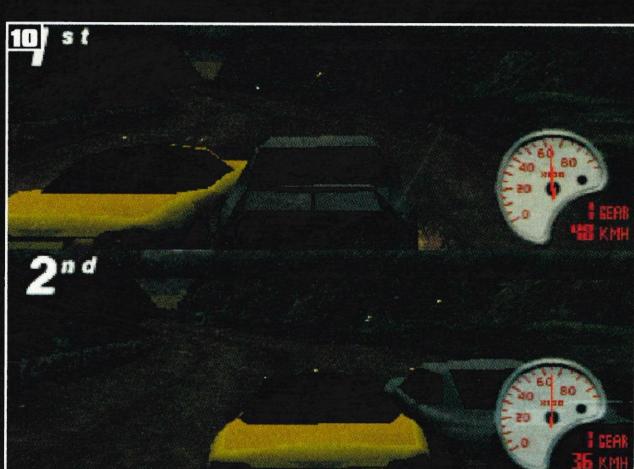
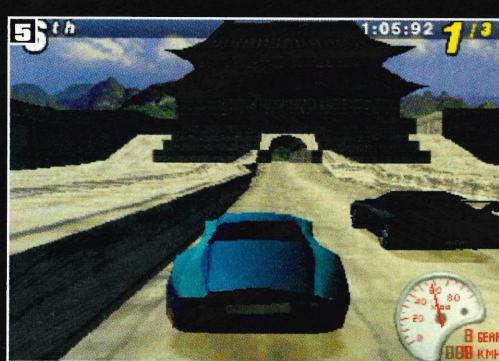
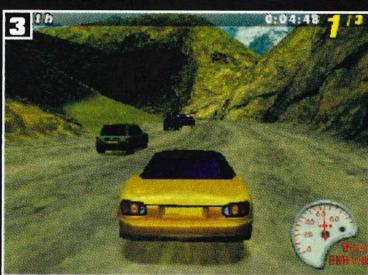
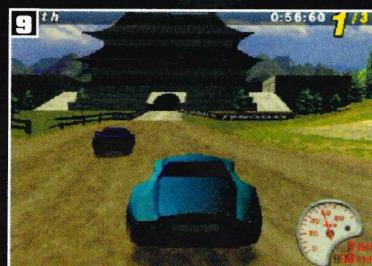
It's different

But this one's different. For starters there're shit-loads of cars and there's the championship and arcade modes, two-player option, shedloads of tracks and car stats. Er... so not too different then.

C3PO Racing!

C3 Racing ain't shaping up too badly. The handling is a bit on the dodgy side, but the graphics are pretty cool...

Plus This version is a bit ropey, but could turn out alright. No promises though.



1 Looks a bit like Colin McRae Rally 2 The Ford Puma sucks! 3 Overtaken by a Nissan Micra... the embarrassment! 4 Pretty impressive tunnel action 5 Racin' on The Great Wall of China 6 That bastard cut me up 7 Ooops! Laggin' behind the field 8 Cool reflective effects 9 Nice wheels man 10 The two-player game's a good laff



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snowboarding all in one. Instant action, breath-taking scenery, original soundtrack and fifteen courses from around the world. Rushdown's philosophy is simple: if you're not living life on the edge, you're taking up too much room.

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SNOWBOARDS

SUMMIT

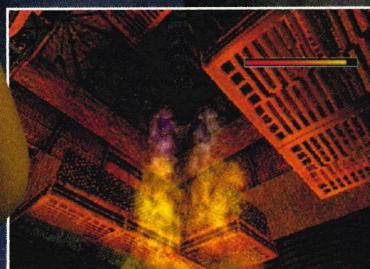
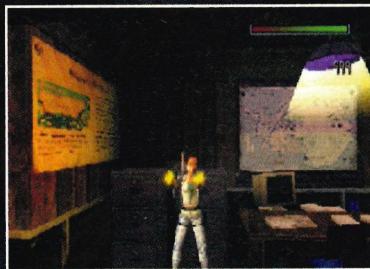


Infogrames
UNITED KINGDOM

CANAL+
MULTIMEDIA

■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY EIDOS ■ PLAYERS 1 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

■ Comin' atcha: Bigger bangers mean bad news for Bonzo...



■ All she needed was a little more space

update Tomb Raider 3

She with the cup size that goes off the scale is back. Better get the Kleenex in now.

Game over, Rover! Blam! Gurgle. Yup, the gal dogs love to hate, numero uno mutt-murderer Ms Lara Croft, is back in town. And the pooches better get their heads down, 'cos this time she's gonna be toolled with a whole new set

gonna be just a case of new graphics icing on the Tomb cake: this 'un's gonna be a return to the classic Tomb 1 style of play, with plenty o' puzzles to get your teeth into. But that's not to say there won't be plenty shooting. And mucho dog-killing...

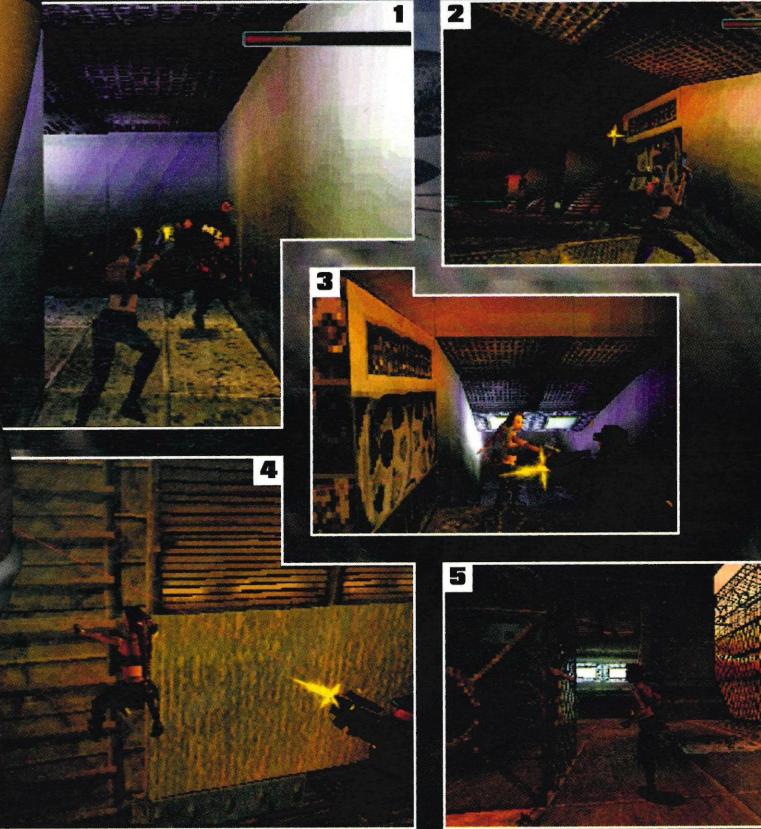
'A return to the classic style of play: plenty of puzzles, shooting and dog killing...'

of weapons including hand grenades. Get whimpering, Fido. Warn your chums.

She's no dog

Check out these new screenshots. Mmm, mmm. Those programming fellas down at Tomb Central ain't been idle. But it isn't

It looks very much like there's gonna be more raw gameplay in this one than there was in Tomb 2. And the new look conjured up for part three is totally rock-solid. The more we see of this one, the more we like it. You ain't gonna be disappointed Croft fans.



1 And all because the lady loves... to slay 2 They're all going to be gunning for you 3 Told you. They come at Lara from all angles 4 Even from behind when you're climbing the walls... 5 The backgrounds and graphics are looking sweet as anything in TR 3

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY PSYGNOSIS ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Psybadek

This ain't your standard meat 'n' two veg boarding game, dude.

Most games take themselves too seriously. Not Psybadek. If racing around cartoons on hoverboards kicking cutesy ass doesn't sound like fun, you need your head examined.

Radical dude

So you're with your crew, when the evil Kraken turns your posse into robotic soldiers. You've gotta get on your deck and rescue 'em. There's no shortage of stuff to do, with snowboarding races, stunt events and stuff to collect to help free your mates.

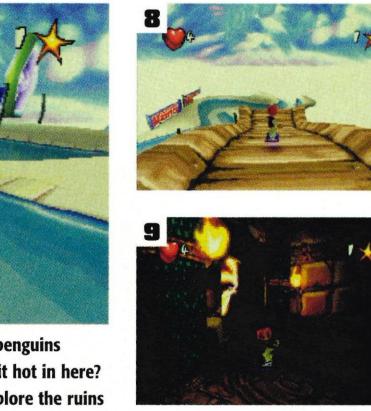
In your face, man

Psybadek certainly looks the mutz nutz and it's got the cool beats of Bentley Rhythm Ace and David Holmes for you to rock out to.

1 Could be a good laff with loads to do – not just the snowboarding.



1 Mind the penguins! 2 Mind the trees 3 Shoot evil penguins
4 Nice special effects 5 Looks like Spice World 6 Is it hot in here?
7 Who sponsors this? 8 Speed up for the jump 9 Explore the ruins



■ OUT DECEMBER ■ BY SONY ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Libero Grande

The weird-ass arcade footy game makes it to the 'Station!

Jeez, the French. Ronaldo had a bleeding fit just before the big match and so the garlic-chomping, onion-stinking frogs managed to bang in a few lucky goals and win the World Cup. Bastards. And while we're on football, here's a new footy game for your 'Station.

Loadsa bollocks

Libero Grande has all the usual stuff you'd expect to find in any footy game, with a shitload of stats, various championships and masses of kicks, passes, headers and all the rest of it. The graphics are as cool as a polar winter and smoother than a baby's arse. Fair enough.

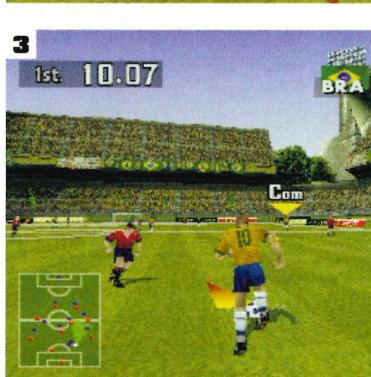
Solo fun only

What makes it different is you can't play as an entire squad. You've got to choose just one bloke and stay with him. This makes for a more tactical game of footy, as you can't just invade the other half and stick one in the back of the net. You've got to slowly build-up to the goal, calling the ball when you want it, passing it to your team mates and banging one in when you're in a good position. Just like the real thing.

2 It's looking good and could be a real winner. The different play to other footy games and the fact that eight of you can play make this a cut above...



■ Libero Grande could be a winner



■ Euro 2000 is ours. You'll see



1 Old carrot top himself, Paul Scholes 2 France eh? How the bloody hell did they manage to win the World Cup? 3 How the mighty have fallen. Brazil are now officially crap 4 The 'desperately in need of a good striker' Scottish team 5 An unlikely scoreline

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Psybadek



vans



Features tracks by
Bentley Rhythm Ace
and David Holmes

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**IN THE EVENT OF FIRE,
LEAVE BY THE NEAREST
AVAILABLE EXIT**



ESCAPE... OR DIE TRYING



Pool

Pot black. That was the kettle talking, though...

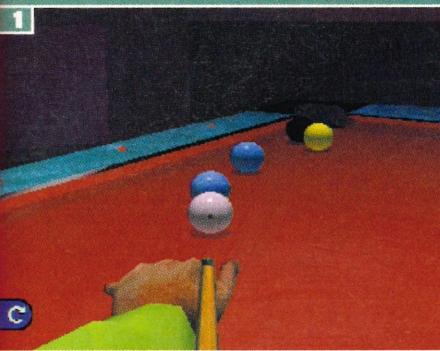
Just how lazy do you have to be to play this one? We can see why you might think 'Oh sod going down the park to play football, I'll crack out a footy game on me 'Station'. Ditto for exterminating mutant zombies. But when a red-blooded man thinks 'Sod heading down the pub with my mates to

pot a couple of frames...' he's got to be sick in the head...

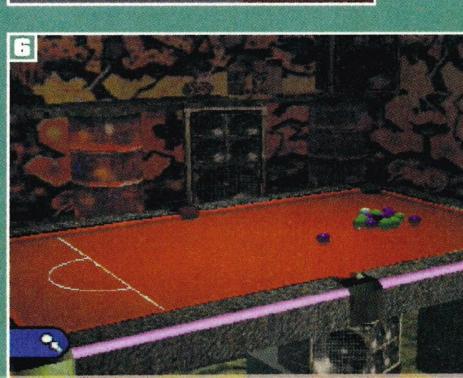
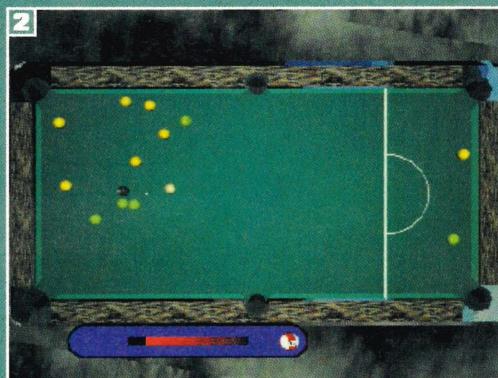
Too pool for school!

But this looks like it's gonna hustle with the best. There're all sorts of pool: Yankee pool, British pool, two player pool and all played by blokes called Slim Chance and Fat Vince...

plus Could be a laff. If you're right lazy...



1 Odd-coloured Yankee tables **2** British pool: how we like it **3** Go on Yank. Do your worst **4** The balls move sweetly **5** But not after you miss a real sitter **6** Bad pool hustlers often come here...



■ OUT JANUARY ■ BY KONAMI ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Deep Blue

An entire game about swimming? It's time to practise your breast stroke...

So, here's the deal. You're a diver looking for the sunken ship Matilda. Deep in her belly lie all kinds of treasures and goodies. There're only two small problems. You haven't got a clue where the bloody ship is and you're flat broke. So team up with a pensioner called Roberto and go search the seven seas for any kind of shite to sell off to 'finance' your search.

The sea, the sea!

The controls are surprisingly smooth and so is the gameplay. With a limited air supply and all sorts of nasties gagging to send you to Davy Jones's locker, this is looking like it could be a high-adrenalin little beast as well...

plus *Mucho swimming. Could be mucho watersport fun.*



1 So, it's all about swimming **2** You tackle the odd shark, or they, er, tackle yer tackle... **3** When you need money, flog some crap to this mean git



APOCALYPSE IS COMING

FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

"...the most frantic, explosive, 3D engrossing environment game in the world."

Official PlayStation Magazine

ACTIVISION PlayStation

FIFA 99

Another FIFA game? Yup. Shaddup and don't complain, wiseass...

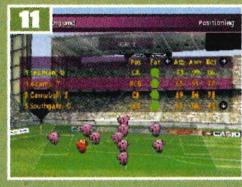
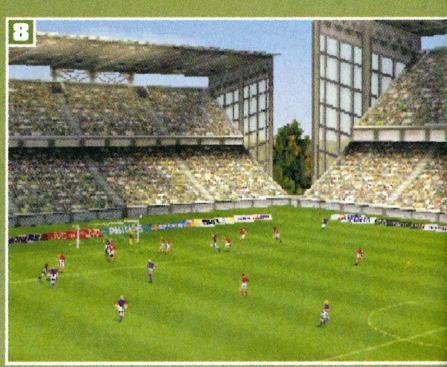
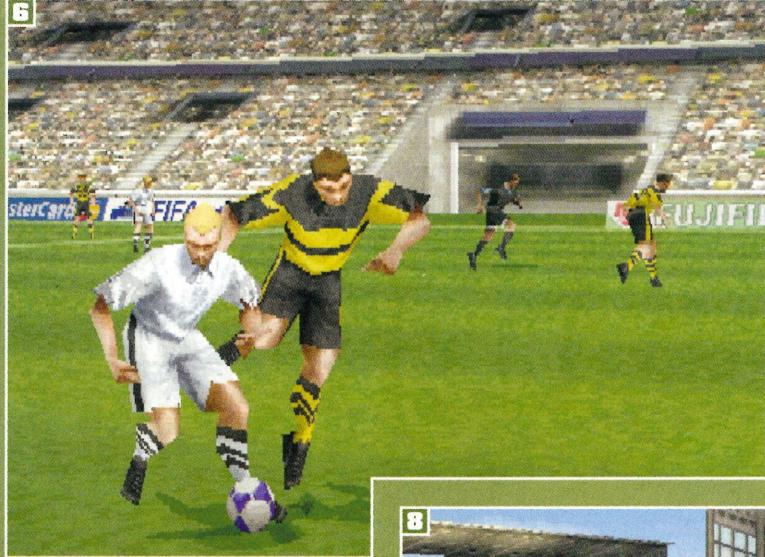
More footy games than is remotely reasonable are trying to sneak into your Christmas stocking. Most of 'em, you'll want to beat off with a shitty stick, but this fella, follow-up to the super-slick and ultra-playable World Cup 98 looks like it might deserve a nice snug berth in the bottom of that big sock o' yours...

And why?

Speeeeed's the name of the game. They've beefed up response time, animations and stuff so the game goes like a vazzed-up Ferrari. Maybe not faster than a speeding bullet, but almost certainly faster than most speeding footballers. And playable? Yup. It's so instinctive even the mentally subnormal

can join in the fun. Also in there are all your fave league clubs, and the chance to make up your own leagues. Peachy.

THIS *This isn't a whole nu deal, but if you're looking for supreme playability and the chance to go like shit off of a steam-powered shovel, look no further...*



1 Limber up lads 2 Shearer in interesting goal shock 3 That looks just like a Leicester strip to us 4 Another professional footballer goes for his Equity membership 5 Man, they get into some scrapes 6 FIFA's three-legged race never got off the ground 7 Scored! 8 Filbert Street 9 Hop to it 10 11 Floating players 12 Oh God! It's Ince!

Michael Owen's World League Soccer 99

More tasty graphics. More modes. More moves. And it's Michael Owen's now...

If you're looking for the chance to curl your lip in derision at other PlayStation owners, look no further than the box with Michael Owen's grinning baby face on it. Y'see, WLS 99's gonna be a tad fiddly for you joeys out there, but there'll be bagloads of footy depth in there. Like, loads. Buy this 'un, and insist your mates call you 'Daddy'...

Room for one more?

Why punish your bank balance for yet another footy game? Just because, OK? And

this 'un's looking like a right bright little button. Fancy super-special high-resolution new looks? Mmm. Tasty. A new easy-to-play arcade mode? Tastier. And over 25 new moves for the super-detailed way-hard-to-play sim mode? Tastiest. Yessir, we sho' is looking forward to this.

Graphics are looking well peachy, and it seems like they've built on the rock-solid gameplay in the first *World League Soccer* to make it even better...



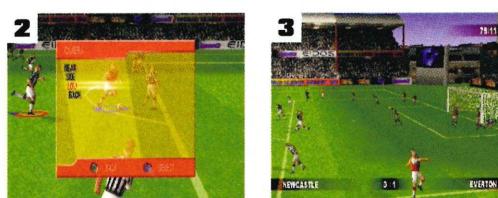
■ Look! Look! Look! It's Michael Owen



■ And this is where I'd like the ball to go...



1 Toffees go one up 2 Multiple play options are the order of the day 3 The Toon's offside trap needed some work... 4 Tackle 'im!



■ The mighty Foxes about to score



REVIVING
REVIVING
REVIVING
UP

TCA2
TOURING CARS™

Codemasters®

■ OUT SPRING 99 ■ BY PSYGNOSIS ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, LINK CABLE

Rollcage

Why do they call it Rollcage? It's cockney rhyming slang for road rage. Check it out...

Driving and violence in games go together like, well, beer and fags for one. And Rollcage puts them together just so with a healthy dose of gut wrenching, G-force inducing death-fest action.

Low-slung fun

We're talking motors you can flip and keep driving: virtually indestructible and stoopidly fast. You can drive up walls and tunnels, and even the ceiling, we're talking the type of G-forces that turns your nose inside out.

Mobile demolition

It takes a psycho to get ahead in this game. Aspiring Rollcagers can nobble enemies by pranging buildings and sending them a concrete hat. Or howzabout ramraiding your way to victory? Sound tasty? Yep, and that's before you start snaffling the shitloads of weapons left carelessly lying around. Nice.

Should be brain-on-hold button bashing, and a welcome addition to the death and drive gang.



■ Have no fear, this sucker's glued to the road



■ Yep, you're right, it's driving us up the wall



■ One of those suckers gonna be toast 2 See, told you so 3 It's hard as hell to tell if you're the right way up. But frankly, who cares?

■ OUT SPRING 99 ■ BY CRYSTAL DYNAMICS ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Gex 4: Deep Cover Gecko

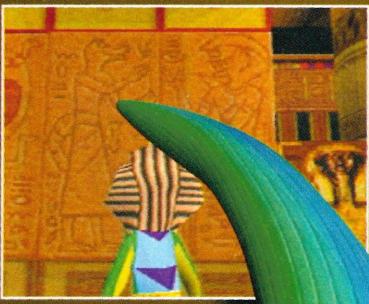
The groovy gecko struts back onto the 'Station. Looking mighty fine, Mr Gex...

Gex 4 is the third Gex game. Don't ask. The first one was a 2D platform game with a lizard in. It was also one of the vilest lumps of clag ever to slither out of Satan's starfish. The second one, Gex 3D, was a 3D platformer with a lizard in. It was ice cool. All sorts of levels, loads to do, and graphics calculated for max baby batter spillage. And this 'un looks like being more of the same. Coolio.

Posh Spice

Last time round, Gex was an upper crust cad-type gecko with the kind of cut-glass accent that makes us reach for our Stanley knives. This time, he's gonna be a bit more James Bond-esque, and he's even got a Moneypenny, Agent Xtra, who's gonna be voiced by a Baywatch beauty. Nice. And our double-0 lizard's gonna be rocking through Western-themed levels, Egyptian temples and all sortsa shit. Extra cool.

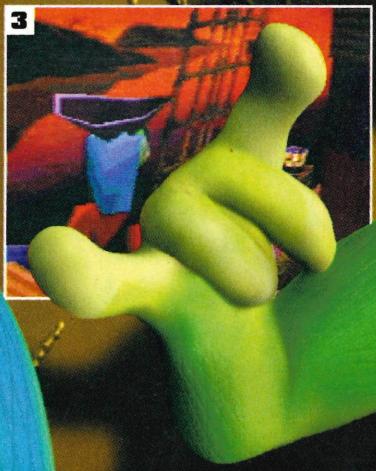
The last Gex was a total 3D peach, and with new scenarios and adventures we've got high hopes for this fella...



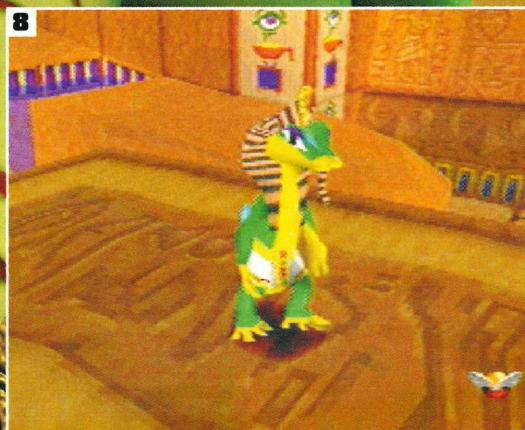
■ Gex with a silly head on



■ See? Silly! Silly! Silly!



7



1 My. What a big lizard you've got there 2 Pirate Gex. Yo ho ho
 3 Ho, ho, ho, ho, ho 4 Now Gex gets to ride a silly horse 5 See?
 6 That silly horse in full. Ditch the hat, twat 7 Another silly horse.
 A lizard horse 8 Gex with his new Egyptian hat on. It's where
 the smart money's going this season

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY GREMLIN ■ PLAYERS 1-2
 ■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Actua Golf 3

Calling all swingers. Swap your wife for a joypad. NOW. It's time for another round...

Golf. The final frontier. Loved the world over by gentle folk who swear by its arthritis-soothing properties and its corinthian spirit, ahhh lovely. More reasons to be cheerful come by way of the release of Actua Golf 3, which takes armchair golfers into a whole new world of realism and gameplay. My God, even down to the colour of your golfing slacks – deep.

Can you twat the ball hard?

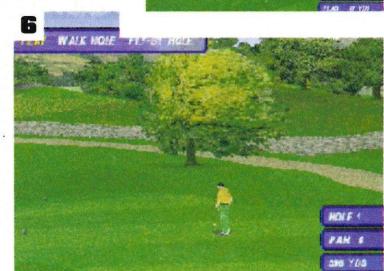
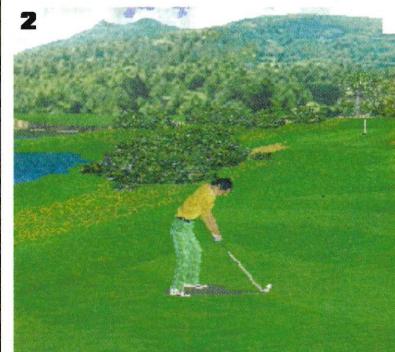
It may still be golf but that doesn't mean it can't be improved. It's got eight new courses, better screen resolution and spanking new game styles. It also boasts clouds, mountains, moving water and swaying trees. Best bit

though is the easy new control system using the Dual Shock's sticks to swing back and hit the ball. Revolutionary or wot?

plus For the serious clubber this may well be the bollocks...



2



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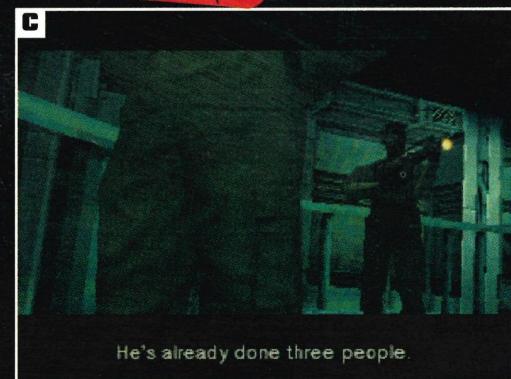
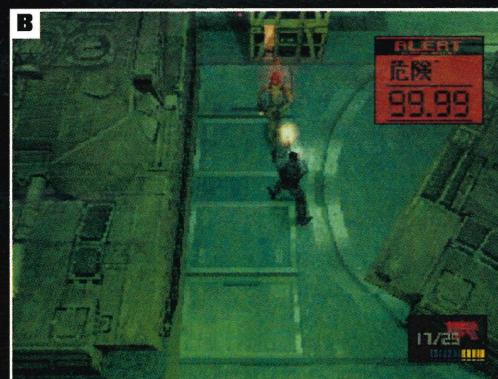


1 Looks easy? Well it ain't 2 Just swing dem hips baby 3 That's you in the yellow 4 Just dig the view
 5 Power bar ago go 6 A man alone with his thoughts, how fecking dull 7 We can't see the ball either

Metal Gear Solid

You could be playing this game by the time you read this...

update



You want this like nothing else on earth. Well y'know, you could be SAS-ing it up right now. The demo of Metal Gear

Solid that comes with ISS Pro 98 gives a fine taster of this über-game, but in case you ain't got the cash to splash, here's what to expect.

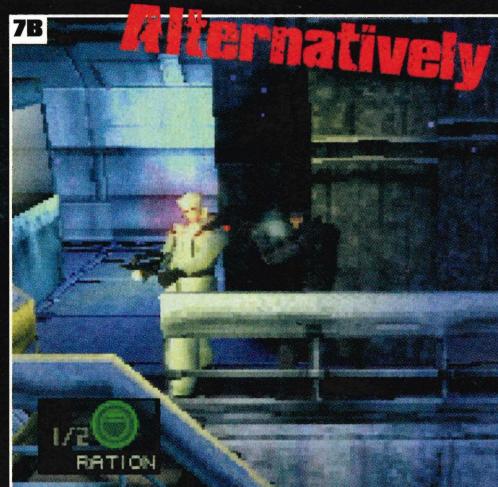
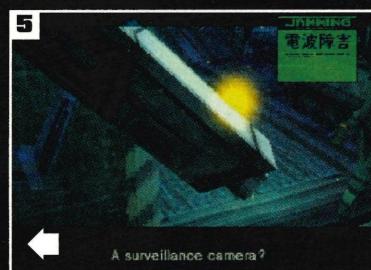
Rock solid Snake

Snake Solid is the hardest game character ever. Fact. He starts off inside a torpedo, fired towards his target destination. He then swims up the base and prepares to take on an entire army. Using just his fists. Whatta guy.

A See a guard with an exclamation mark above his head, you've got two options: shoot or run! **B** Ammo's tight in this game so make sure every shot counts **C** Snake's reputation as a lust overlord has obviously preceded him. The guards are already talking about his conquests by the time he turns up...



1 She-ite! Guards all around, but if Snake sticks to the shadows he's outta there in seconds **2** The only way out is the elevator. If them grunts spot Snake he's dead meat, so he's got to stay in the dark **3** Snake must find a away inside the nuclear base. Best wait for the gunship to do a runner first, though



4 See the radar in the corner? It displays enemy guards and the security camera so use it.

5 Either dodge the camera or lob in a chaff grenade to jam the electronics **6** Time to party as Snake grabs the Socom pistol from the back of the truck

7A There are two ways in. Either use the ventilation shaft to the side of the main entrance

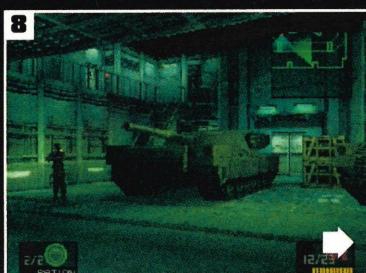
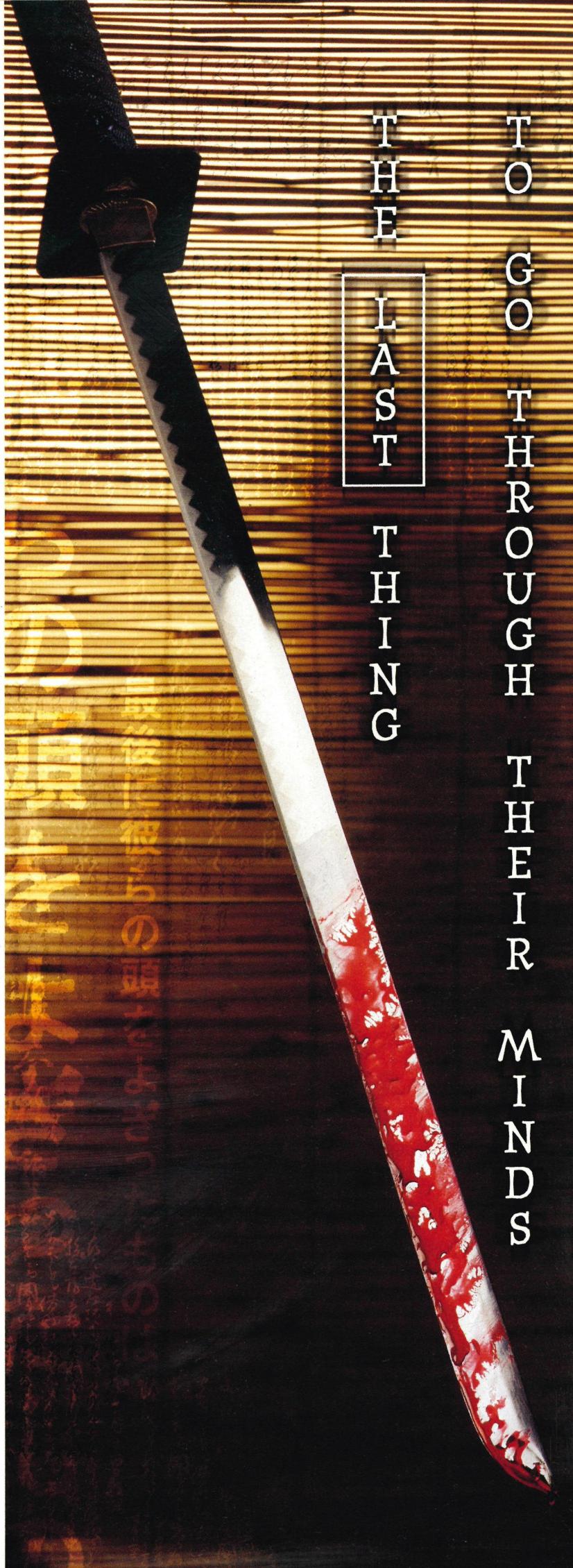
7B Or go up the stairs, bagging the trooper and then sneaking through the top shaft

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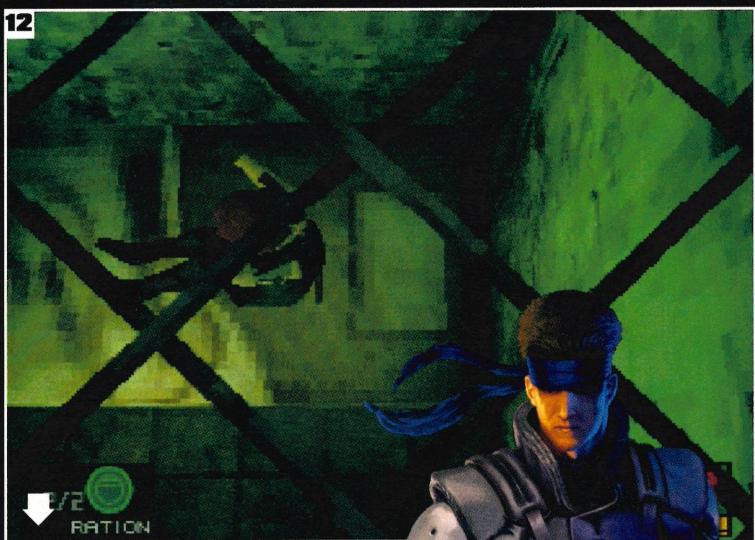
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8 Two monster tanks and a couple of armed guards. Looks like the weapons bay is no place for an intruder... 9 But as long as you stick close to the walls and outta sight of the cameras, you'll make it to the elevator, no probs 10 Typical. Just when you need the lift, some bastid on the 50th floor calls it first 11 It ain't safe in these here halls 'cos there are guards all over the shop. Time to disappear into the vent shafts once more...



12 C'mon Snake, you're here to save some big cheese, not check out the local talent 13 He's the guy you're looking for. Soon as you drop into his room, he blabs about some secret project...

14 Then drops down dead. Looks like you're on your own from now, son



Blab

Oi bonehead! wanna get £5 OFF MEDIEVIL

You got it! MediEvil kicks ass but don't just take our word for it, see for yourself by getting this frighteningly great game at a special discount price at any branch of Game in the country. Fill in the voucher below, cut it out and take it to your local Game store.

Can't be arsed to leave your living room? then call the Game Mail Order line, quoting the reference PSP241098.

You've got until November 24th 1998 to benefit from this unique offer so get movin'! Call 0181 974 1555 for your nearest Game store, or check Game's Website at: <http://www.game-retail.co.uk>

GAME

DEAR MR GAME BLOKE,
PLEASE GIVE ME FIVE POUNDS OFF A COPY OF MEDIEVIL FOR MY SONY PLAYSTATION. MY REFERENCE NUMBER IS
PSP241098. THANK YOU.

NAME:

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(PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE IF UNDER 18 YEARS)

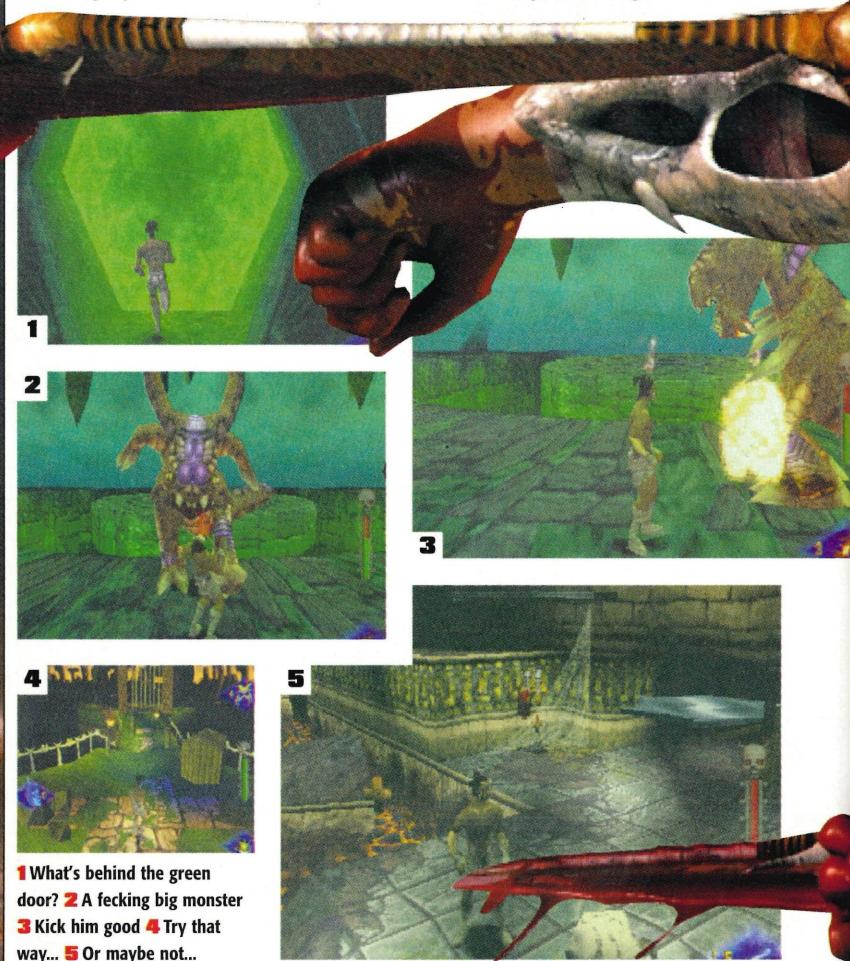
TERMS & CONDITIONS: VALID ONLY AGAINST THE PURCHASE OF MEDIEVIL ON SONY PLAYSTATION. THIS VOUCHER IS NOT EXCHANGEABLE FOR CASH AND IS NON-RECOVERABLE. OFFER ENDS NOVEMBER 24TH 1998. THIS VOUCHER IS ONLY REDEEMABLE AT BRANCHES OF GAME



■ C'mon, put your heart into it...



■ It's a sinister parcel of vinegar rice in seaweed



■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY CRYSTAL DYNAMICS ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Akuji the Heartless

Someone's gone and stolen your heart. And it's not 'cos they love you...

You've just had your heart ripped right out of your chest by your evil brother. It wasn't anything personal, y'understand: he just needed to borrow it to summon up some dark spirits from the terrifying realms of voodoo...

You heartless bastard

And how're you going to right this terrible wrong? This is a videogame, right? Kill every voodooed-up weirdo that you see. For several hours. Wrong righted. Zang.

Same old thang

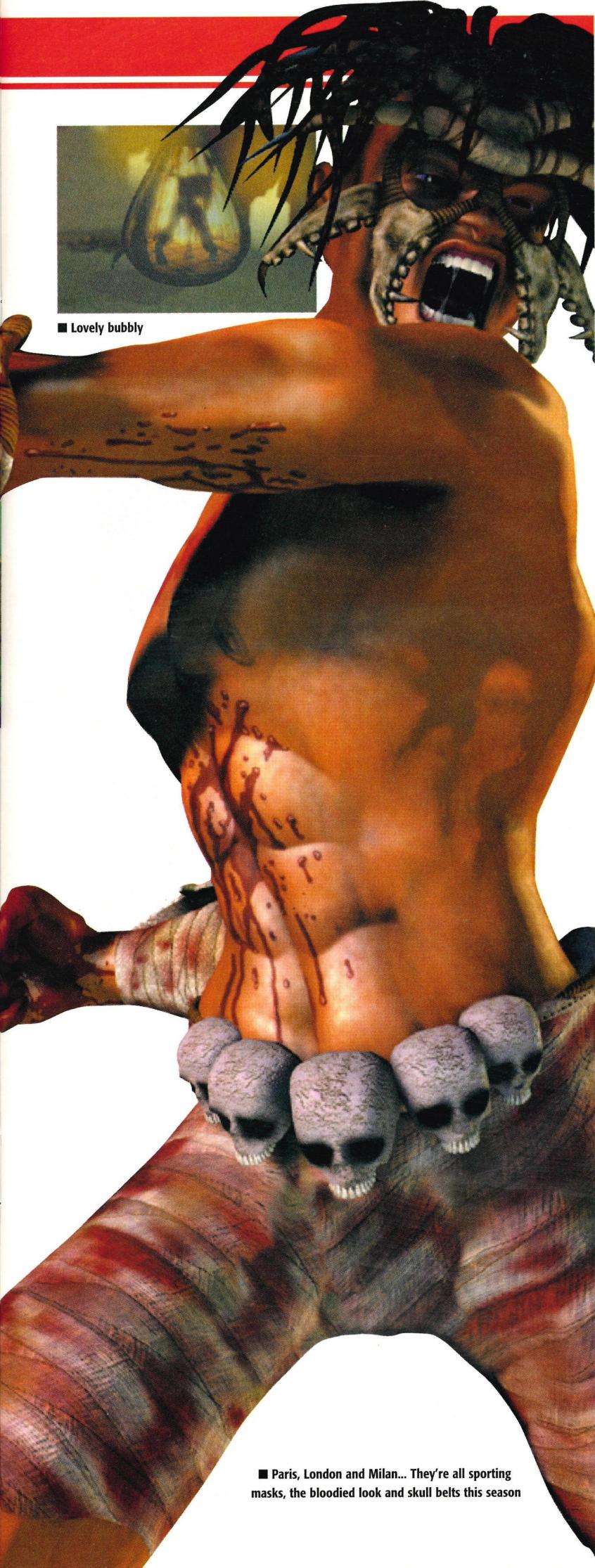
So, don your armoured underwear and set off to fight the good fight and get back what's

rightfully yours. This is another Tomb Raider type thang. But then that's hardly some kind of criticism.

Crazy creepy crawly

Crawl on your belly, jump across chasms and lash out with fiery death. If it moves, it dies. Only the good will survive – largely thanks to you killing everything in range of your murdering stick. Murder! It's big! It's fun!

plus Super slick graphics combined with a badass evil story line. It's got all the makings of a classic, so start yer saving. This could well be an essential purchase.



■ Lovely bubbly

■ Paris, London and Milan... They're all sporting
masks, the bloodied look and skull belts this season



TENCHU STEALTH ASSASSINS

Shed blood with discretion and move without
detection in the shadowy world of Japan
where only the unseen survive. Take on the role
of a ninja who must master stealth, strategy
and cunning to stay alive.

Enhanced from the highly successful
Japanese release, Tenchu sets a new benchmark
in action/adventure games.

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Unique scoring rewards your stealth and cunning



Twenty two weapons range from ninja swords to magic spells



Unparalleled enemy AI

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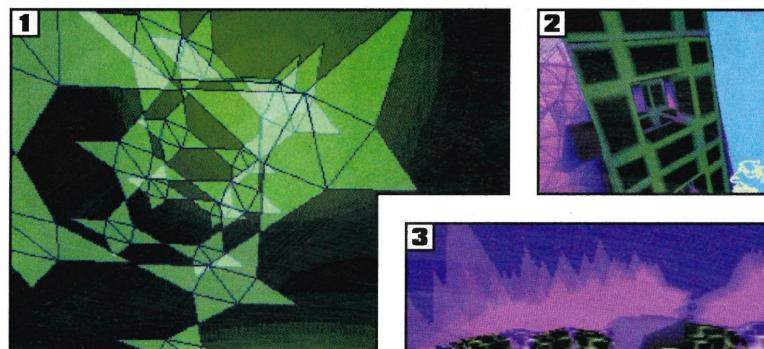
■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY CODEMASTERS

Music

This baby's gonna be your chance to up your cool rating and make the ladies moist by using thousands of samples to whip up your own 'crucial dance cuts'.

It's all well and good to use, and the sounds are ice cool: pretty soon you'll be mixing up dance toons, making your own riffs and generally wondering why you've been paying inflated prices for undertalented wankers to do exactly what you can do in your living room easy as pie.

This game is gonna totally rock. You'll be able to make choice choons on a triphop or drum n' bass 'tip' (God, we know all the happening words), or switch to house, techno or ambient if that's your thang. And there's whispers that you might even be able to send off your memory cards and get your majestic works burnt on to like a real audio CD. Bye-bye day job...



1 Music even provides the visuals for the tracks you're laying down... 2 Here's one we burnt earlier, looking and sounding mighty fine 3 Find your way around the first PlayStation music making machine 4 Then watch it on screen...

G-Police 2

■ Out: Feb ■ By: Psygnosis

More 3D future cop shenanigans. And the punks on the street had better watch their asses – this time the death penalty's coming hot and fast out of more than just one puny attack chopper. Tanks and badass robots are gonna join in the fray. No mercy, perp. Blam!



■ No hiding from the biggest of brothers

FA Manager

■ Out: December ■ By: Eidos

Brian Moore may have retired from football commentary but his voice will still be heard on PFA Soccer Manager, the new management game for the PlayStation. The game promises to have the last word in player detail, coming as it does with the full endorsement of the Professional Footballers Association. Expect playability plus some ace 3D action sequences.



■ You've got more stats than Motty on a good day...



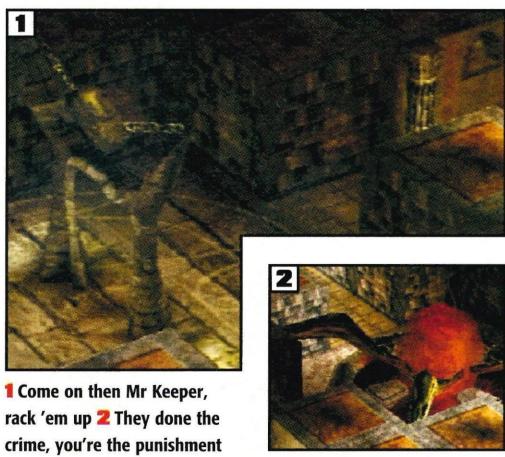
■ Spurs vs Saints? Not a game we'd rush to see

■ OUT SPRING 99 ■ BY ELECTRONIC ARTS

Dungeon Keeper 2

The first Dungeon Keeper didn't make it to the PlayStation. Shame really, because by all accounts it was a top-notch strategy game. However, the sequel (and word is, it's even better than the first one) will be coming at you early next year and we've got the inside information.

You get to be the evil Keeper in the title, controlling every aspect of your dark and dingy dungeon. Mining for gold, creating fiendish torture chambers, training your monsters and building evil temples are just a handful of the jobs you've got to do. 'Course the real fun lies in slaughtering the hordes of innocent prisoners, which'll no doubt have MPs doing their nut. It's early days yet, but we reckon this could be a winner...



1 Come on then Mr Keeper, rack 'em up 2 They done the crime, you're the punishment

Stop the press! Crash Bandicoot 3 is looking like it's gonna kick ass, even more so now that the boffins at Sony have got wise to the flaws in the lovable marsupial's previous adventures. While the basic hole jumpin' and apple grabbin'

formula is gonna remain the same, this one'll allow you to explore the 3D-esque levels much more than before. Which we reckon is a mighty fine thing.



■ More strange fruit for the Bandicoot...



Kensei: Sacred Fist

■ Out: Spring 99 ■ By: Konami

This is another tasty little fisticuff-based morsel coming your way early next year. Kensei has all sorts of people hitting each other in the tender and

hurtly bits of their bodies for your entertainment and pleasure. And controls and graphics are smoooooth beyond belief. You're going to like this one.



■ That's for dissing my jacket...



■ And that's retaliation

■ OUT SPRING 99 ■ BY ELECTRONIC ARTS

KKnD2

Krush, Kill & Destroy 2, the sequel to the original PC game promises to inject a little humour and instant playability into the realm of strategy games. The lowdown is that it's a post-apocalyptic hell hole, and you're stuck in Australia, either fighting as the survivors or the 'Evolved'. That's humans vs mutants to you and me...



■ Aussie rules: time to rough up the colonies

Cool Boarders 3

■ Out: Dec ■ By: Sony

Looking better than ever. There's now more stuff to fiddle with than ever, more stunts, a cooler-than-cool split screen mode, and the mountains you whizz down are raw sex. Especially the one called Devil's Butt. Snarf snarf.

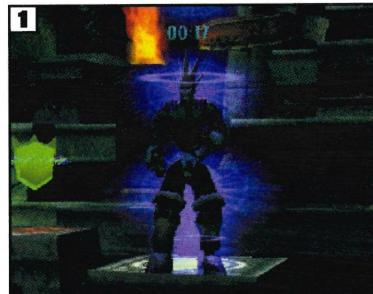


■ Fancy riding into Satan's crevice?

■ OUT DECEMBER ■ BY SONY

Tribal

Fight! Fight! Yup, it's another mano a mano firefest, but this time there's been a measure of chase-me chase-me tag antics stirred into the mix. Tribal's gonna be a weirdo futuristic fighter where a selection of thugs blast it out over big sci-fi buildings, racing each other to pick up powerups and get to teleports...



1 Feeling kinda blue 2 Golden globe's abound
3 First one to the blue tepee gets the powerup



Release dates

Wanna know what's coming out when? No probs. Just check out our extensive list of release dates. But before you go rushin' off with da moolah, check with the shop. These dates have a nasty tendency to slip...

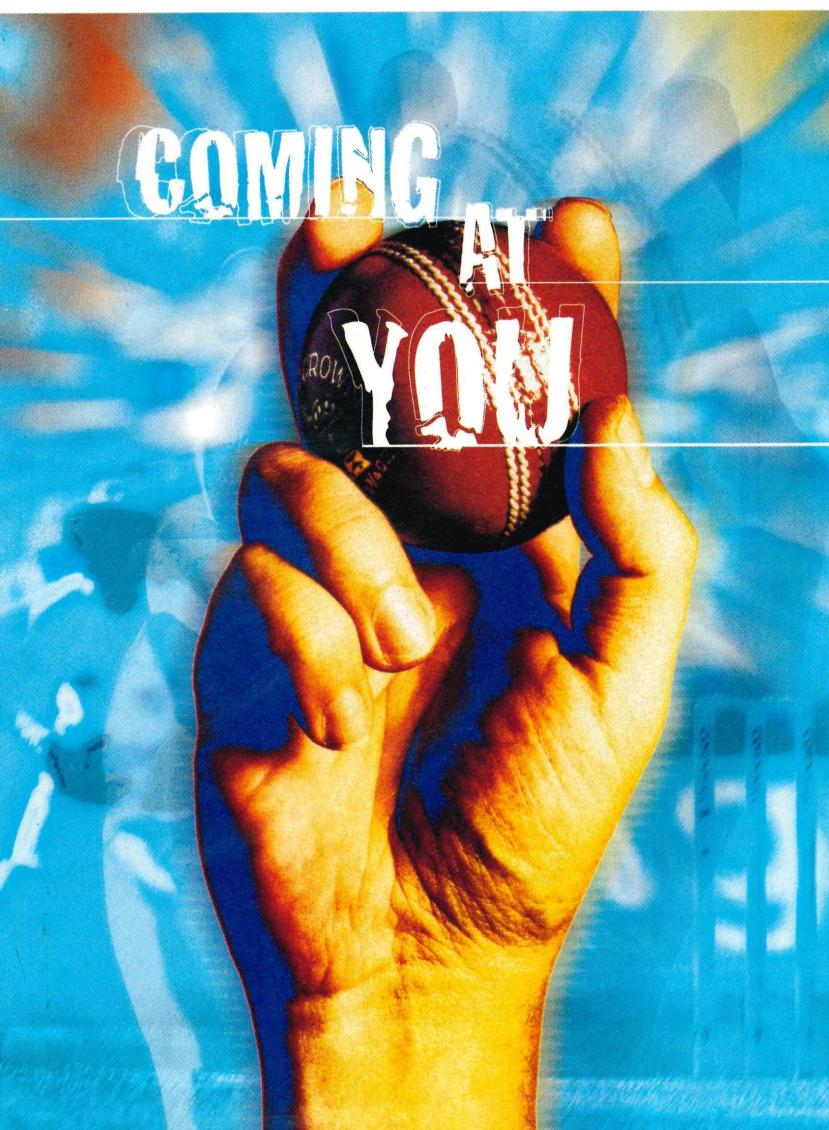
RELEASED	REVIEWED	RELEASED	REVIEWED
9 OCTOBER		3 NOVEMBER	
MediEvil	92% October 98	Livewire	
23 OCTOBER		6 NOVEMBER	
Duke Nukem: Time to Kill	89% October 98	NBA Live 99	
Pet in TV	60% November 98	Blasto	56% August
Spyro the Dragon	88% November 98	Lemmings Collector's Edition	
30 OCTOBER		13 NOVEMBER	
Brian Lara Cricket		Apocalypse	
Breath of fire 3	88% June 98	Michael Owen's World League Soccer	
Formula 1 98			
Tenchu	92% November	20 NOVEMBER	
Ninja: Shadow of Darkness	82% September	Test Drive 5	
NFL Extreme	71% November	Tiny Tank	
NFL Blitz		Tomb Raider 3	
Megaman Legends		Monaco Grand Prix	
San Francisco Rush	48% September 98	Psybadek	
Rival Schools		Music	
Pocket Fighter	79% October	Dodgem Arena	
Off Road Challenge		Asterix	
Small Soldiers		KKND2	
Soccer Pro Manager		Knockout Kings	
Unholy War	89% October 98	Rat Attack	
X-Men vs Street Fighter	74% September 98	Cool Boarders 3	

ALL DATA SUPPLIED BY

NO. 1 FOR MAIL ORDER!!

Department 1

PlayStation



MEDIEvil

SO YOU THOUGHT THE COUPON WAS HERE, SUCKER? WRONG! YOU'LL FIND IT ON PAGE 42

Tomb Raider script

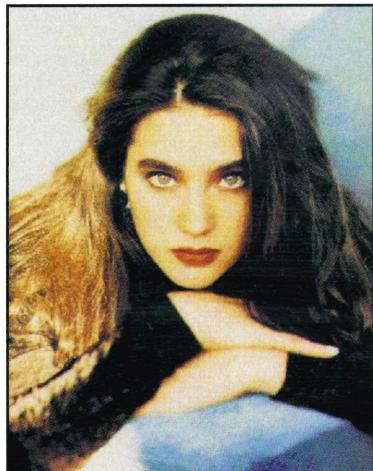
Warning!! This may be total crap or it could ruin the Lara film for you...

We like a bit of Tomb Raider movie news round here. And here's the very latest...

The movie finally has a script and some folks on various net sites have read it. The script in question may not be the finished (or even authentic) article, but it's supposedly written by Brent V Friedman who penned the likes of Mortal Kombat: Annihilation, and is produced by Larry Gordon and Lloyd Levin who were behind the recent space shocker, Event Horizon.

Fool's gold

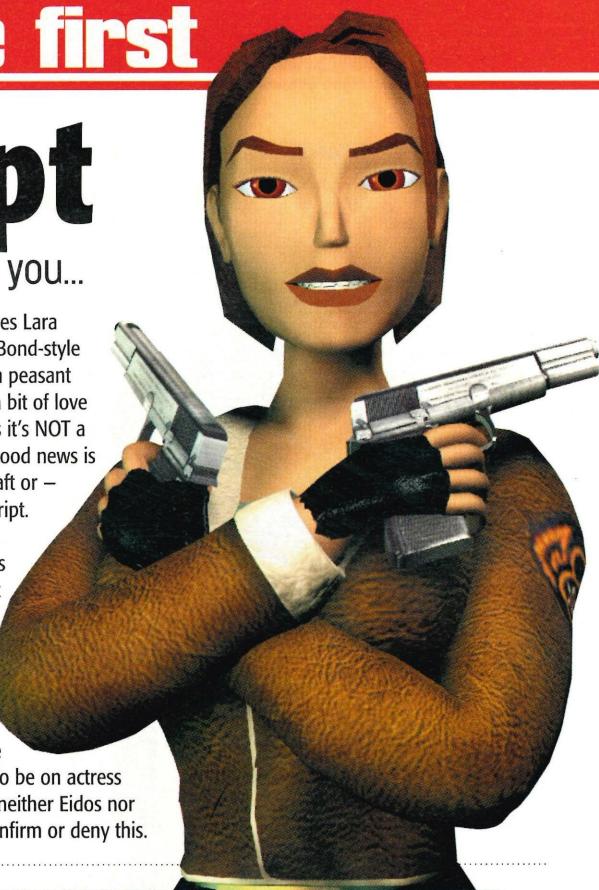
According to reports, Tomb Raider's story tries to keep as near as possible to the fast-paced excitement of the games. So Lara is once again searching for treasure. El Dorado is the name of the game. It's off to South America for the mystical City of Gold.



■ Jennifer Connelly: stare at her picture and hypnotise yourself. It really works!

The script apparently sees Lara relying on loads of James Bond-style gadgets, teaming up with a peasant sidekick and even having a bit of love interest. Early talk suggests it's NOT a good screenplay, but the good news is it could just be a rough draft or – more likely – not a real script.

● Meanwhile, the rumours continue to circulate about exactly who will play Lara. Sadly, there seems to be no truth in earlier reports that Plus favourite Carla Pivonski will don the shorts and the smart money now seems to be on actress Jennifer Connelly, though neither Eidos nor Paramount Pictures will confirm or deny this.

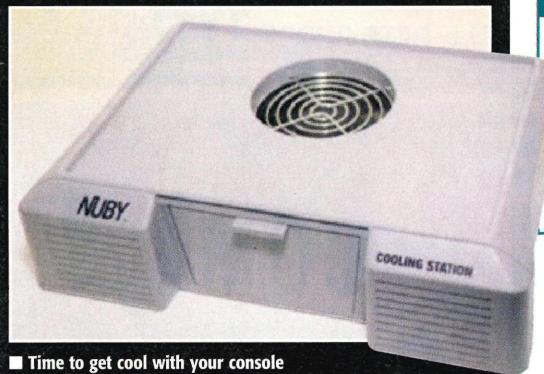


Cooling Station

Does your PlayStation keep heating up and skipping? This can be real problem, leading to back pain, depression and, sadly, alas, to suicide.

Luckily, a new gizmo is set to stop 'Stations getting all hot under the collar. The Nuby Cooling System is a foot pad that sits beneath the machine and cools it off by blowing air into it.

Alternatively, you could turn it off. But then again, nah...

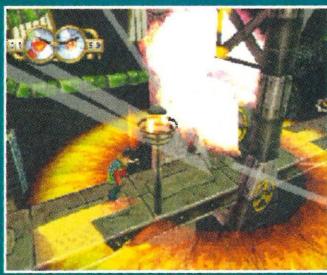


■ Time to get cool with your console

WILD 9 HAS LANDED

■ You've heard about Wild 9, right? The bitchin' game where you save the galaxy with the most powerful weapon ever?

Well, the brains behind the game have launched a badass competition. All the Phonies along the number 9 bus route in London have been given a 'Torture Button'. With just one touch you're put in touch with the Evil Karn to battle for the prize of 9 Wild days in California.



■ Dial number 9 for one wild holiday

CHEAT YERSELF THIN

■ Games joeys foxed by the likes of Tekken 3, Dead or Alive and Soul Blade might want to check out the new Tekken 3 Cheatmaster. It comes in memory card form and will help those with limited hand-eye coordination find elusive moves and characters. It's currently available for £12.99 and will be followed by Cheatmasters for Final Fantasy VII, Gran Turismo, Resident Evil 2, Tomb Raider 2 and others. Check out our test in Gear next month.

■ Fancy something to cheat?



PlayStation 2, sooner than we think

Rumours, rumours and more rumours...

■ According to sources, Sony's next console is mere months away in Japan. This latest information could send shockwaves through the videogame industry. If true, this may be an attempt by Sony to stop Sega's Dreamcast from gaining a strong entry into the market.

The latest information is that PlayStation 2 will land in Japan during April 1999, five months after Dreamcast, and could even be on US shelves by autumn next year. Claims that it'll be compatible with current PlayStation games are apparently true. At the moment we will have to wait and see...

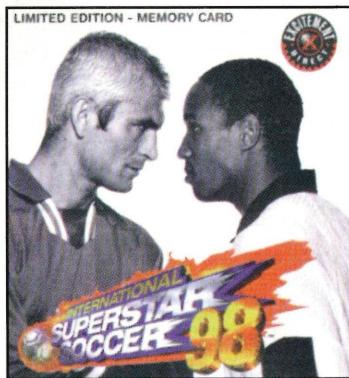
Sticker kit and card

Sticker shit, more like...

Too popular? Too many friends? Then maybe you should get yourself a PlayStation sticker kit...

Buy a sticker kit like the new ISS Pro 98 'limited edition' effort and watch those mates disappear. They'll think you're a right knob when they see your 'Station covered in a naff sticker and, oh, how they'll laugh when they find out you paid £9.99 for the pleasure.

Better still, shell out another £9.99 to buy an ISS Pro 98 memory card. One good thing, though: you get a fiver off the game if you stump up for both the sticker set and the memory card. Call 01993 844885 for details.



■ Memory card. Sticker kit not pictured

Top Twixer

Rajesh is the daddy now

■ The Twix Gamesplayer of the Year is being held in the Virgin Megastore in Oxford Street on October 24th. The game: Gran Turismo. The prize: £1,000 worth of PlayStation software. Judges will be

separating the geeks from the geezers over three laps of the Grand Valley circuit. Last year's prize was scooped by Rajesh Fatania, who steamed around Rage Racer's hairiest track. Get practising, and hopefully we can get a new winner...

Corporate Croft

Lara everywhere

If you fancy a fit and foxy chick lounging around your desk, the best chance you've got is the brand new range of Lara Croft goodies.

Croft's got her boat race on a PlayStation joypad, mouse mat, mouse and desk tidy, as well as a wrist rest (insert your own 'wrist rest' gag here) and CD holder done in a fetching Andy Warhol style.

The company responsible for this rampant Croftery is Micromania and they can be contacted on 01249 717030.

► Get your mitts all over Lara's consumables



PocketStation's here

PDA gizmo given name and date

The Sony Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) has been christened the PocketStation and is set to hit shelves in Japan on December 23, with a European release to follow later.

SONY GOES PLASTIC

Citibank in America have just released the new Sony Citibank Visa and Mastercard. The idea: get American's to spend, spend, spend. Everytime they use the card, they earn points that can be used towards buying PlayStation gear. The more dollars spent, the more points earned.

What can you get? Things like games and hardware; CDs and MiniDiscs from Sony Music labels and Sony electronic products. The Sony world takeover starts here.



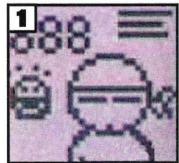
► I'm a card-carrying Sony fan

Details for the PocketStation have also been announced and it's now been confirmed the gadget will slot into the PlayStation's memory card port and be powered by a watch battery. It'll be programmable, allowing users to download stuff from the PlayStation or other PocketStations, and will also have a 'bi-directional infra-red facility' which, in normal speak, means you can swap and trade information with other PocketStations.

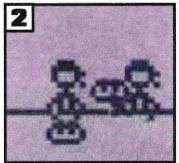
The add-on – which will come in either white or crystal colours – will also have organiser abilities by incorporating a clock/calendar.

Not only will PocketStation users be able to use the gizmo with compatible PlayStation games, but 31 titles will be available specifically for it by spring next year.

One of those is almost certain to be Go! Pirates, pictured below, an RPG/Tamagotchi affair allowing the player to breed their own pirates. This game could use the infrared capabilities of the PocketStation meaning players could fight their pirates.



1 Pirates are Go! 2 The first game for your PDA



Other stuff

Bits we couldn't keep to ourselves

■ **Indiana Jones** will soon swing into action on the PlayStation. In Indiana Jones and the Infernal Machine (snappy), Indy's got to stop a whole load of crazy Commies from building the ultimate weapon and, err, killing us all. We'll give you more details when we know them.

■ **The classic Arabian adventure Prince of Persia** (Runny jumpy-type thing. Been on just about every games machine ever) may be on its way to a 'Station near you. Rumbplings are that the Prince and the year 1999 may go well together.

■ **Thrill Kill**, you may remember, is an ultra-violent beat 'em up. We like it, but sadly a big question mark's hanging over its future. At the moment, nobody's committed to getting it out on the shelves, with the probable reason being that its extreme violence is going to land someone in hot water with censors.

■ **In Montezuma's Return** you control Max Montezuma, daring adventurer, who's stranded

on a tropical island, with zombie-like ghouls aplenty hunting him down. Max's gotta restore the desecrated tomb of his ancestor to save the day and his own head.

■ **F1 98** is to feature a four-player mode. That's as long as you've got at least two PlayStations and three mates. Two drivers will race on each screen, but in the three-player mode one lucky geezer gets a full screen all to themselves. F1 98 should be out anytime soon...



■ On the grid for four-play fun

We want you

Get yourself a job

■ **Leading software types** Interplay are hunting down gamers to check out their products. The company is after testers aged between 14 and 26 who own either a PlayStation or N64 and want to get a sneaky peak into the development of forthcoming games.

Interested gamers will need to be able

to get to Interplay's HQ in Marlow, Buckinghamshire and in return they'll get a slap-up meal and copy of any game they work on.

Anybody interested should call 01628 423775 and leave their name, address, telephone number and they'll be contacted when the next testing opportunity comes up.

The advertisement features a cricket player in a red and green uniform, holding a bat and wearing a helmet. The text 'THE GAME OF THE CENTURY' is prominently displayed in large, stylized letters. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for 'BRIAN LARA CRICKET' with the PlayStation logo above it. The background is a blurred image of a cricket match. The Codemasters logo is at the bottom left, and the website 'www.brianolara.com' is at the bottom right.



roman empire

THE GREATEST GAMING HERO
IS BACK IN AN ALL-NEW, REVOLUTIONARY,
THIRD-PERSON FRAG-FEST, EXCLUSIVELY
FOR SONY PLAYSTATION®. THE GAME
THAT'S TOO BIG TO BE CONFINED TO ANY
CENTURY HAS BROKEN OUT.
RAGE THROUGH THE AGES WITH THE KING
OF CARNAGE AS HE FRAGS ALIENS
THROUGH THE CENTURIES.

medieval era

HAVE YOU GOT TIME TO KILL?

DUKE WILL FRY THE BACON OF ROMAN
CENTURION PIG-COPS IN ANCIENT ROME
- JOUST EXTRATERRESTRIALS IN SHINING
ARMOUR IN THE MIDDLE AGES - SHOOT IT
OUT WITH ALIEN RUSTLERS IN THE OLD
WEST. AND MORE! HE'LL DO IT ALL, BABY!
BECAUSE IN THIS OR ANY OTHER
CENTURY, THE TRUTH REMAINS THE SAME.
THE ONLY GOOD ALIEN IS A DEAD ALIEN!

wild west

present day





DUKE NUKEM TIME TO KILL

18

3D
REALMS

DEVELOPED BY



LICENCED BY



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That thinking feeling

'Oi! Out the car, dickweed! It's how the geeza in Grand Theft Auto gets his motors, but what happens when you apply GameThink™ to everyday tasks? We got our guinea pig to test it out...

Kill. Pick up ammo. Kill again. Works fine for Doom, but as many inhabitants of Wards for the criminally insane will tell you, it don't go down so well in the Real World. GameThink's being pumped into our weak minds on a tide of mindless, violent but quite entertaining videogames. 'Pull all levers! Search every bleedin' inch of those

featureless walls for secret doors! Pick up your battleaxe — it is time for the bloodletting! Sheesh.

In a spirit of scientific inquiry, our guinea pig performed a few simple tasks using GameThink. Help or hindrance? Just take a guess. And don't try this at home, kids...

GRAND THEFT AUTO

GTA: it's convenient PlayStation-based career training for the young upwardly mobile heroin addict. Smash! Grab! Steal that motor! Smell that velour trim and plush leatherette finish! Steal more motors! Perform tasks for the Triads! Meet many interesting mustachioed men whose middle name is 'the knife'. Head on out again. Sigh. Time to steal MORE motors. So how does being a man of steal help when you're just popping down the boozer for a sharpener...?



Steal. Steal again. And again



1 Middle Class Ponce™ goes a-thieving. Oh fer Chrissake, don't bother with that granny-mobile...



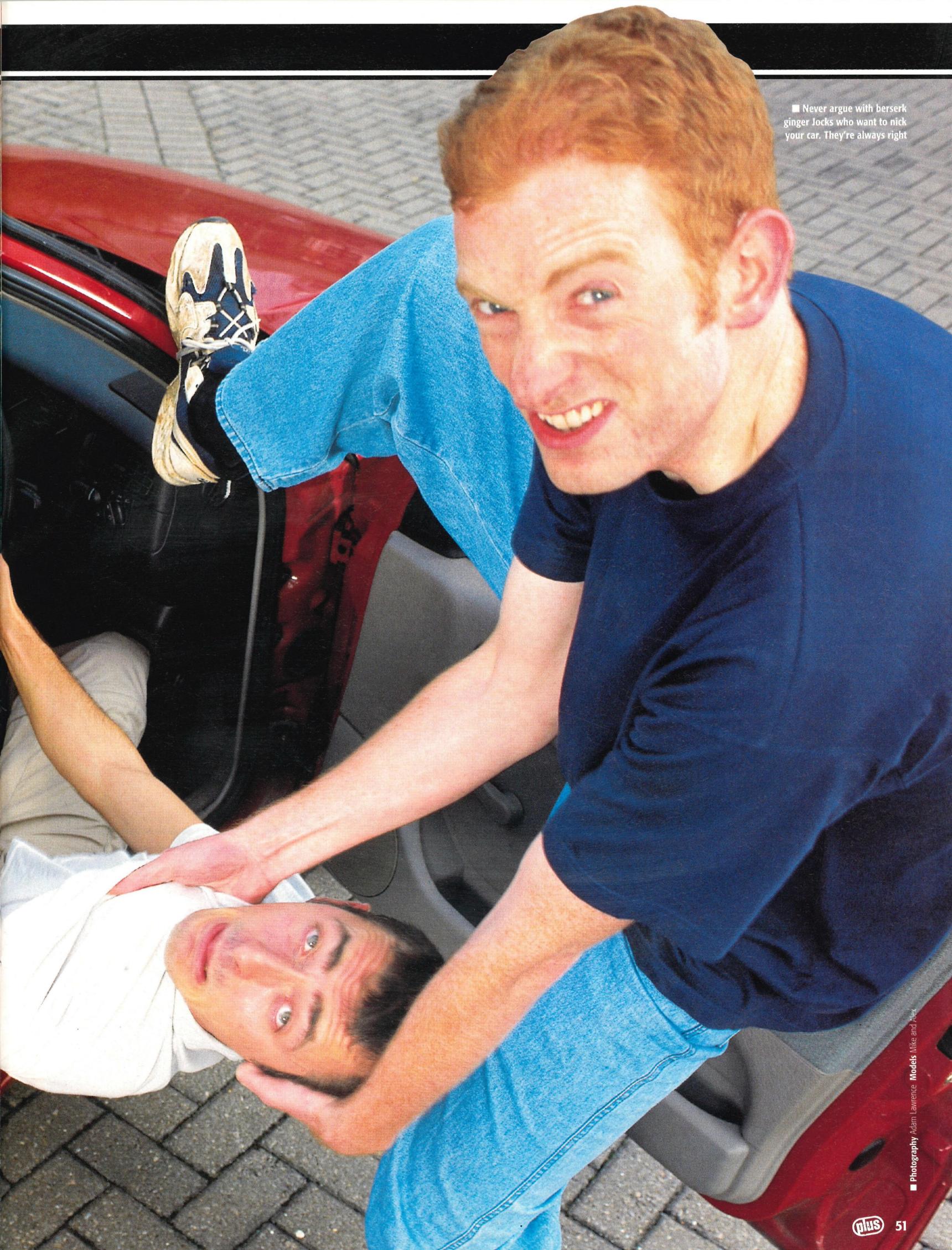
2 That's nearer the pace. Mmmmm. Feel your wang expand just from looking at it...



3 Or this tasty little number will do nicely. Go on! Do it! Be a Bad Man and get down the pub!



4 Oh for God's sake. That's not just a cardboard box on wheels, it's your own car! And don't think you can just shrug. Pussfag



■ Never argue with berserk
ginger Jocks who want to nick
your car. They're always right

THE MIX: Stuff you need to know

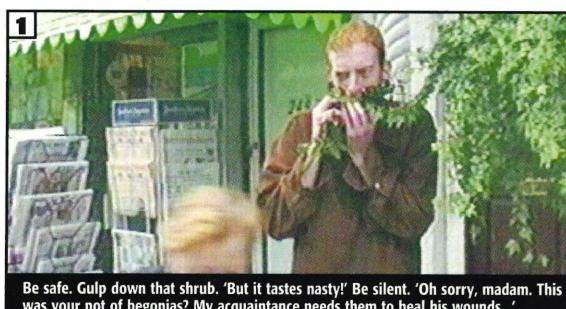
BROKEN SWORD

Broken Sword's an adventure game so abstract it's left people as sad, broken husks up and down the country.

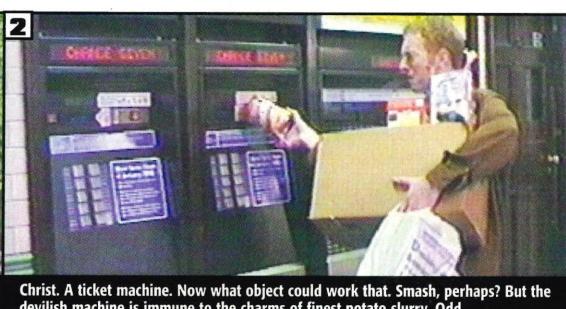
All-American boy George Stobart has to use an assortment of irritating household objects to thwart mad cultists. For George, even having a dump involves taking woodchipplings, mulching them into pulp, rolling it into sheets to make impromptu 'bog roll' and then fabricating a shit office out of orange peel. So how's he gonna post a letter?



■ Point. Click. Puzzle. Hurt brain



Be safe. Gulp down that shrub. 'But it tastes nasty!' Be silent. 'Oh sorry, madam. This was your pot of begonias? My acquaintance needs them to heal his wounds...'



Christ. A ticket machine. Now what object could work that. Smash, perhaps? But the devilish machine is immune to the charms of finest potato slurry. Odd



And perhaps this egg will open this door? Shit. It happened! Magic! And no, love. We're not nuts. We're high-powered magazine professionals doing our job, dammit!



Carrying a shitload of stuff up the tube stairs. The atmos gets nastier than Raccoon City on a heavy zombie night...

RESIDENT EVIL 2

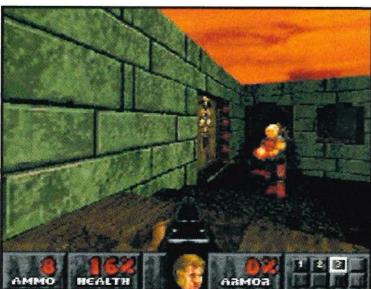
Zombies! Fahsands of 'em! What to do? Standard practice in Raccoon City seems to be to load up with stoopid amounts of goods out of your 'Item Box', gobble vast handfuls of green foliage, and try to confront every obstacle with a barrage of random items. A door? Try a medallion, why don't cha? Will that make for a nice 'n' smooth tube journey into town from the famous zombie hotbed Kilburn High Road? Our tame ginger is about to find out.



■ Kill. Pick up object. Eat leaves

DOOM

Kill! Kill! KILL, DAMMIT! Thinking don't really come into it. Kill every mouldering mother that you get a sniff of, but be a clever lad and stock up bigstyle on those medipacks. Enough plasters to mummify Greater London should do it. And could there be a more hostile environment to test out that Doom ethic on than Oxford Street on a Saturday afternoon? Better hope Boots accept payment in shotgun shells...



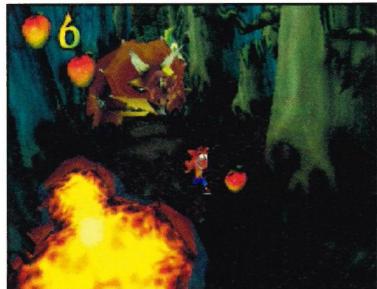
■ Kill. Kill more. Eat first aid kit



CRASH BANDICOOT

Run! No, faster, you pouch-toting piece of turd! Run fast! Avoid holes! Eat apples! Dodge anything that moves! Jump over things! Eat more of those sweet, sweet apples! Generally move like you've jacked up a complete lorry's worth of Pro Plus tablets! Christ. We're too old and tired for this kind of shit.

And we got a feeling Warp 10 speed orchard-fruit guzzling ain't gonna apply well to grocery shopping. Only time will tell...



■ Jump! Run! Consume fruit!



1. Now to buy the trimmings for Sunday dinner. Oh hang on. There's a crate. Banzai!



2. And there's something that would look nice next to my roast. Bollocks. Keep running...



3. Mind the hole, buttmuncher. Bandicoots hurdle holes, remember?



4. But it's all worth it when you see those apples fly. Shopping: nul points. Fruit throwing, though...



1. Swing, swing, swing. Hang on a tick, though. This isn't even on your way home...



2. The front door's obviously for wusses. Climb, budding Croft-ette!



3. And in through that window. No dogs to be busting caps into, though. Curses.



4. How to open that bedroom door. Handle? Oh for Chrissake, use your loaf. It can't be that obvious. Aimlessly pull nearby piles of cardboard boxes. That's better



5. A bed. You want to sleep. It seems simple. Yeah, too damn simple. Stay frosty. Climb into the secret bit under the bed to grab your shuteye. A secret area! Bonus!

TOMB RAIDER

It's the gal with 'nuff mammary capacity to breastfeed away world hunger. The gal whose idea of fun's a toolshed Supermarket Sweep-style slaughter through Battersea Dogs Home. Lara. She just can't be beat. So what's her game? It's all about pulling levers, pushing boxes, finding secret bits, innit? Open a door by the handle? You must be 'avin a larf! So how does Croft's peculiar brand of abstract thinking mix with nipping home for a bit of kip?



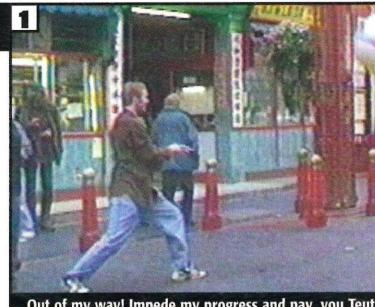
■ Pull. Push. Twiddle lever. Kill dog

TEKKEN BALL

The stoopid secret kung-fu volleyball game in Tekken 3. The symptoms of it are five seconds of amusement. Followed by crushing boredom, despair and a feeling of total hopelessness. But is that balls-a-punching Tekken-balling spirit gonna spice up a trip out to catch a mouthful of scran? And how are the inhabitants of Chinatown gonna react to people playing with a beachball on a rainy October afternoon?



■ Bounce. Bounce. Bounce. Yawn



1. Out of my way! Impede my progress and pay, you Teutonic tourist worm



2. You want some more, you dog? Our fathers bled to keep your kind off these shores...



3. Strangely garbed one, admit me to your eating place...

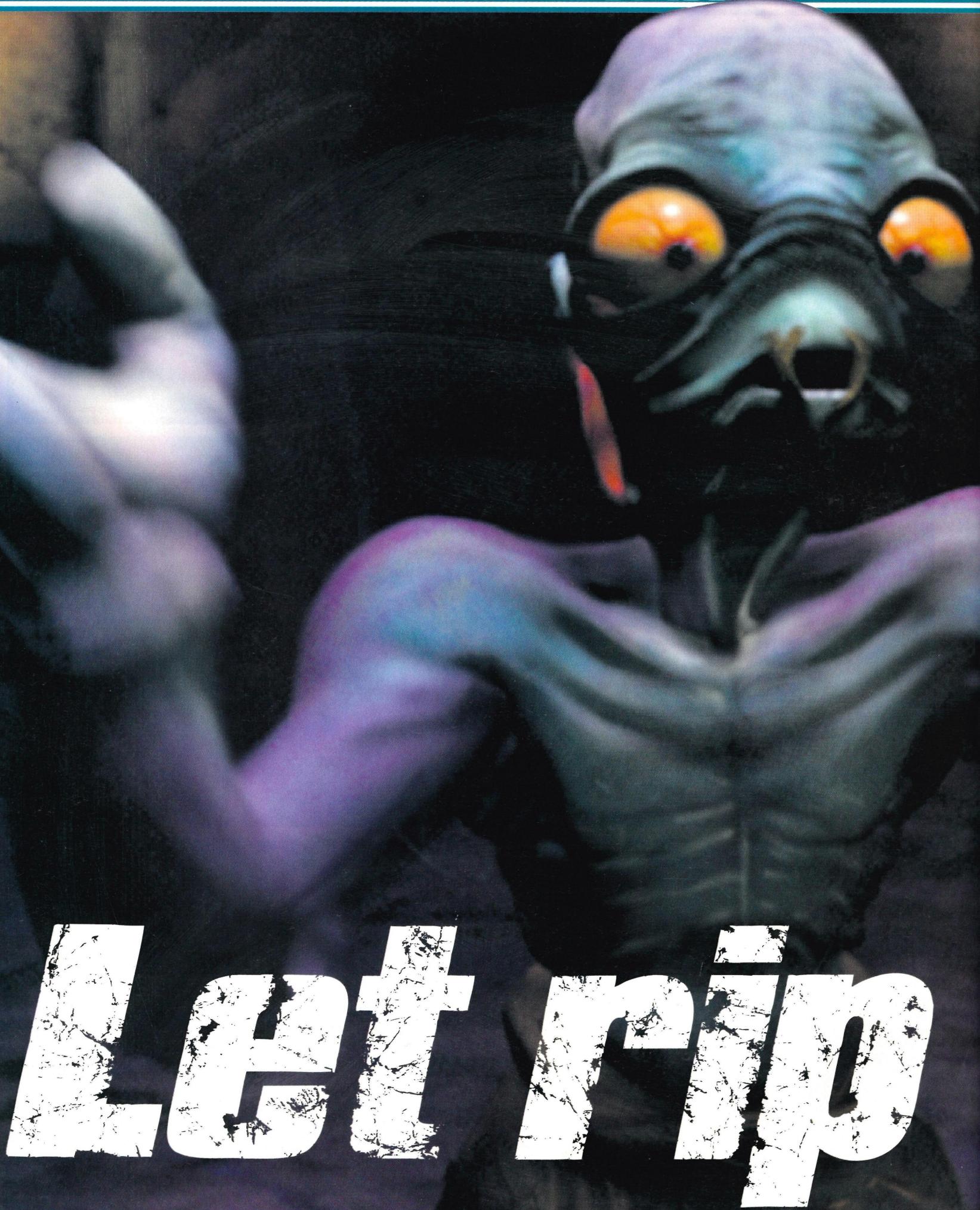


4. ... Or feel my ball-shaped wrath!



5. Phase Two. Hopelessness, boredom. Deep despair

The Works: Abe's Exodus first test



Left 4 Dead

You thought a game with exploding farts existed only in your dreams. You were wrong. They're live and pumping on Oddworld and Monsieur Abe is the man with the lethal methane...



Abe's Oddysee was a killer game. Since when did a game have a storyline with characters you cared about? Since when did the whole shebang look so good? There just had to be a sequel — and here it is. And there's more... This one is bigger, better and you get exploding farts...

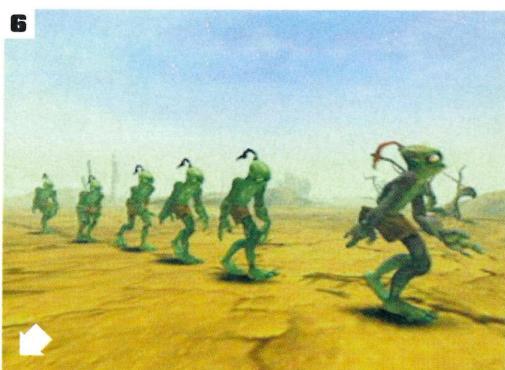
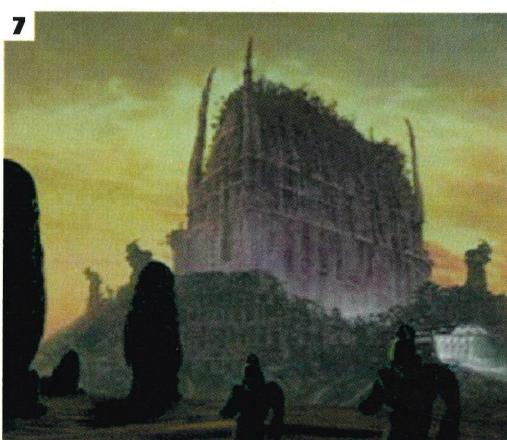
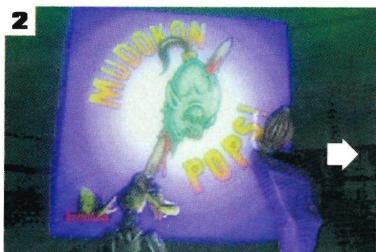


1 Look Abe, go through that door 2 ...And perform that dazzling leap of faith. Sure to impress the laydeez 3 Oddworld ain't called that for nothing... 4 For here there be dragons. Well, ickle bombs at least 5 And let's not forget the horrid lightning things. That'll smart 6 Luckily, you've got a roly-poly pod for baddie bashing 7 But lotsa puzzles to solve...

The Works: Abe's Exoddus first test

Let's play catch up

Abe's Exoddus is the sequel to Abe's Oddysee, and if you missed that, you may need a quick refresher course. Luckily, the game gives you one before setting the scene for the green geezer's next adventure. The story is way important in these games, so pay attention good...



1 In the last game, Abe was a humble worker for Rupture Farms...
2 Till he found out the evil Glukkons planned to use his Mudokon buddies to make their new meat products... 3 So he saved his mates, and became a hero 4 Now he's visited by Mudokon spirits who want him to visit Necrum 5 The Glukkons are up to their old tricks and digging up Mudokon bones 6 So Abe goes to Necrum 7 And wouldn't you know it? There's a load of new adventures...

At the Abe dealership

'Can I help you sir?'

'Yes. I'm considering buying the new Abe's game. I've been very happy with the first one, but I thought I'd better find out what extras the new one has before I committed myself to a purchase...'

'Ah well, if you'll allow me, I'll demonstrate the capabilities of the new model...'



- ✓ This model comes on two discs, so you'll get extra performance from it
- ✓ There's more gamespeak than ever before, sir. We think you'll like it
- ✓ You'll find you're able to possess more enemies than on your current model, sir
- ✓ The puzzles have been made less frustrating and the quiksave feature also avoid headaches



The game in front of an Abe's Exoddus

Gameplay

At first glance Abe's looks like your average platform game. If you've played through the first one, though, you'll know that ain't the case. Beneath that slimy green exterior lurks a game crammed full of ideas. Running and jumping squire? Certainly, but how about a side order of, oh, puzzle-solving, possession, gamespeak... Oh yes. Abe scores real high on the 'what-a-lot-to-do'-ometer.



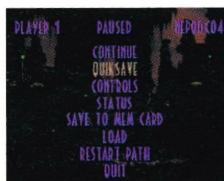
1 Abe's doing a load of jumping 2...Followed by falling 3 There'll be puzzles... 4 Palm rubbing for possession 5 And creeping around Oddworld 6 Fail and green bodyparts fly about the screen

Saving

Abe's Exodus has got two save game options. The first is the same as before: pause the game and save to your memory card. The second's a real doozy. Pause the game as usual, but this time select 'quicksave'. In a blink the game will save and when you die you'll start at the point you last quicksaved. Which is cool, eh? And if the frustration factor was one of the things that really let Abe's Oddysee down, this little quicksave fella means Exodus doesn't fall straight into the same annoying trap.



■ Just conquered a real bastid bit. And, hey, wouldn't it be real pig if I died and had to do it all over again...



■ That won't happen with new handy at-the-touch-of-a-button 'quicksave'...



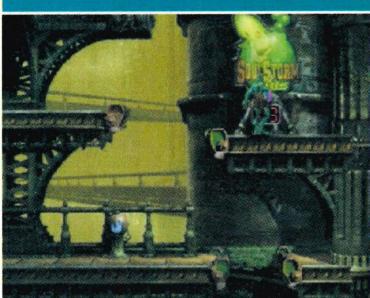
■ And now I can jump around in complete confidence

What we like

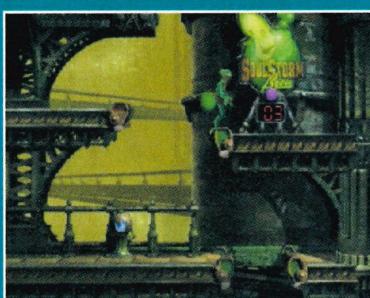
Exploding farts

You're whistling through Abe's Exodus. You're about, um, halfway through. Then something happens. Something that sends you to game heaven. That thing is exploding farts.

And then you find game heaven is entirely populated by supermodels who haven't seen a man in two millenia. That's when you discover the wonderful remote-controlled exploding farts.



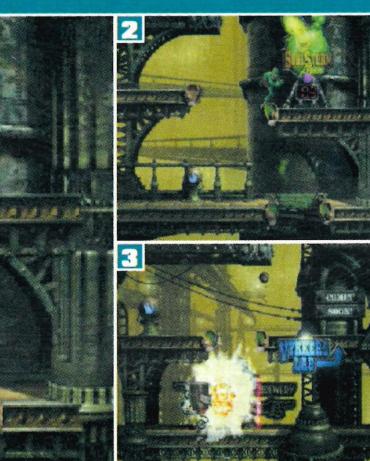
■ Drink a brew. Abe can down 'em in one. Whatta complete man, eh?



■ All that gas means mucho methane, so you can't blame Abe when he needs to let one off



1 These ain't yer normal silent-but-deadlies, though. It's a hovering time bomb, this. Chant to possess it... 2 ...And you can move that bad boy just about anywhere you want... 3 Like, say, here. Chant again, and someone's gonna have a smelly bad day indeed...



2

3

Puzzles #1

Puzzles were a psycho nutjob from hell in the first game. You ran on to a screen and — SHRAK! — you was dead. To stop players dying from frustration this time, the nice programming types have made it easier to spot the deathtraps before you hare into them.



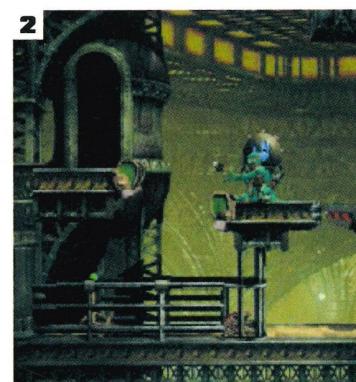
■ So now you get to scout out enemy terrain from a distance (Abe's in the top left-hand corner)



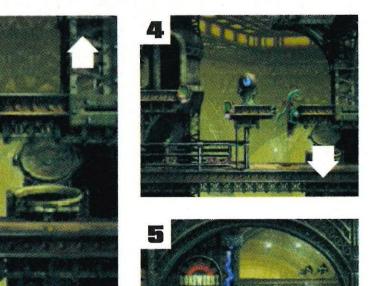
■ Before attempting to tackle the danger head-on. A lifesaver. Smart

Puzzles #2

Abe ain't no 'brain on hold' fest. Everything here needs a little, shall we say, 'application': and after a few hours play both hemispheres of your brain will be joining forces and threatening to strike in protest. Try this one out for size...



1 What are you going to do here, Einstein? 2 Try it our way. Chuck dog meat at the lethal mutts. Divert their attention 3 As they chow down, jump into the pit of pooch and pull the lever. Be real quick... 4 Turn, run and jump and go through the hatch that's just opened 5 And after all that you get to... er, die...



Powers

Our Abe ain't just an ugly face. For this outing he gets a whole load of new powers to play with. Along the way you'll be able to make yourself invisible, cure hangovers and, of course, produce explosive botty burps. You never get these powers together, though, so the game's always surprising you. In review-speak, this means Abe's got mucho variety.



■ So in part two you've still got all them powers you've gotten used to...



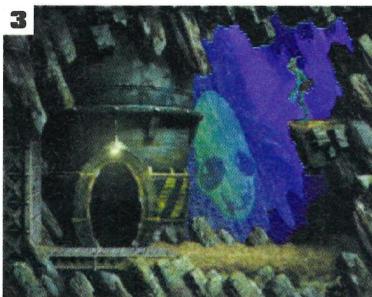
■ As well as a bit of invisibility. Helps when you've just dropped one

»

Works: Abe's Exoddus first test

Secrets

For true Abe experts, Exoddus is littered with secret areas which are always a lot harder to get through than the standard routes. Like the rest of the game, if you've played the first one you'll cotton on to the secrets pretty quickly. And naturally, conquering them means rescuing more Mudokons.



1 Not played the first game? Then you probably won't suss where the secret entrance is on this screen...
 2 You have? Then you'll know to crouch down... 3 And get into a bit so secret the programmers met with bizarre accidents when they'd finished writing it 4 These bits are usually a bitch so you sod 'em...

plus

We'd like to say...

Abe's Exoddus is a stonker of a game. Whether or not you've got the first one, you need this. As well as being a superb playing experience, it goes one step further by having a storyline and characters you actually care about – not something you come across often. Awesome...

Gamespeak

Just like the rest of the package, the gamespeak bit of Abe's has been mainlining steroids. It's bigger and meatier than ever before. Now you get to say more to your Mudo mates, plus the enemies you possess have their own vocab, too. You need to suss speaking real quick to make your way through Oddworld.



1 Careful when you give blind Mudokons orders. Tell 'em to walk, and they'll keep on truckin' – right off the edge. Oops 2 You'll also need new commands, like apologising to your mates when you piss them off... 3 Drunk Mudokons need extra-special treatment. You'll need to make them feel better with a bit of sympathy. Dunno why, they brought it on themselves 4 They're a chatty bunch on Oddworld. Even these geezers get to run off at the mouth...

What we like again

Roll with it...

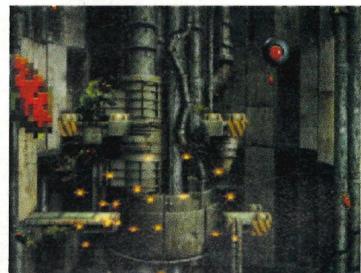
As if exploding farts weren't enough. The game's other bobby dazzler is Abe's new rolling room. Once he gets in this beast anything in his way is street pizza. Roll us up a thin one, Abe...



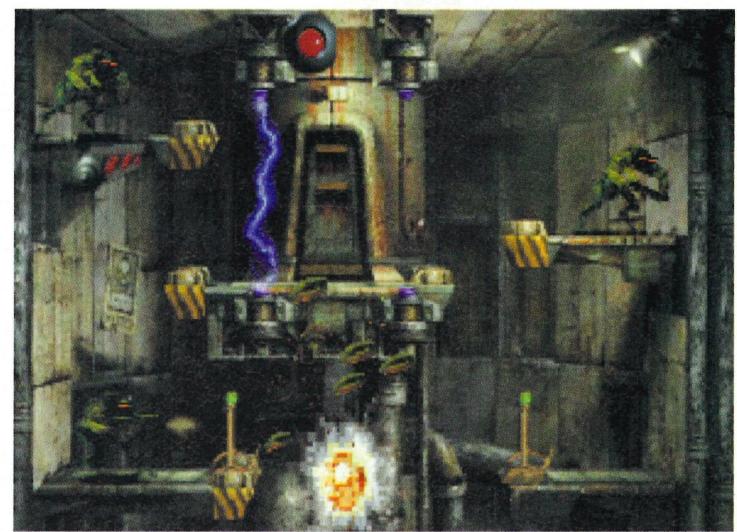
1 Don't be shy, get in that circular cabin thing... 2 You can roll that room around the screen, exploding stuff and killing enemies 3 If you're on the roof with a baddie beneath you... squish 'im

Possession

The ability to chant and take over enemies in Abe's Oddysee was so popular it's been beefed up big-style for the sequel. You can possess almost all the enemies you get to meet in the game, including the all-new flying sligs, the slogs, and even the Glukkons. It's touches like this that make Exoddus a cut above...



■ Chant and then possess the flying slug. Hey, now that's a new one!



■ Slugs seem to know when their mates have been possessed, though



This'll turn your brain to mulch. It'll have you screaming at the TV. You'll be cursing at your 'Station for hours on end. It really is that good. Andrew

PlayStation

RATED 91%

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Actual screenshots from PC and Playstation

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FINALLY, TRACKS THAT ARE AS GOOD AS YOU ARE.

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Take the phone off the hook, cancel the girlfriend for the night, visit the offy and order in three deep pans. Then sit forward, wipe the sweat from your palms and chow down on this lot...

Torn apart this month...

p60 TOCA Touring Car



■ It's time to get things started in part one of our comprehensive track-by-track guide

p71 Final Fantasy VII



■ Loads about controlling ickle characters walking around a strange world, talking weird

p72 WWF Warzone



■ 'Good evening grapple fans. Once again, we've another bunch of overweight Yank actors for ya...'



p69 Abe's Oddysee

p69 Lost World

p70 Cool Boarders 2

p70 Soviet Strike

p70 Theme Hospital

TOCA TOURING CAR CHAMPIONSHIP

This rally racer's just gone platinum and the games'll be leaving shops like cars off the grid. Here's the first half of our full-on guide. More next month.



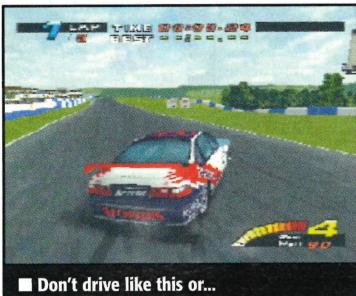
DETAILS

GAME:	TOCA Touring Car Championship
PRICE:	£19.99
COMPANY:	Codemasters
REVIEWED:	October 1998
SCORE:	91%
VERDICT:	Hyper-realistic touring car racer

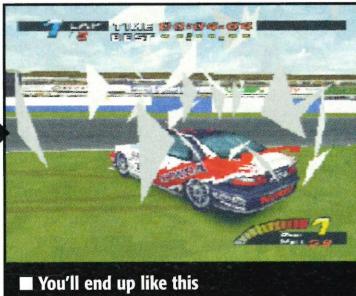
THE BASICS

KNOW YOUR CAR

■ TOCA's no cartoon racer, so learn to control your car properly, right? Make sure you drive smoothly and don't keep making small corrections right and left. Do this too much and the lighter cars will just fall over.



■ Don't drive like this or...



■ You'll end up like this

■ Stay on the track, man! It seems obvious enough but you're punished if you come off in TOCA. It's better to brake early and often, losing one place, rather than getting lost in a gravel pit and coming in last.



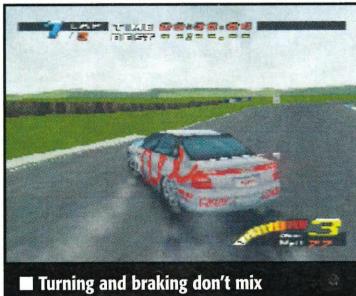
■ You're in a bit of trouble now



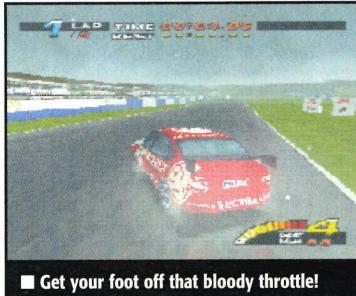
■ But major shit if you refuse to brake

■ Only a fool'd use the brake like on/off switches. You can't just jam your finger on and expect to turn – it'll crash. Use short stabs on the brake if possible.

■ If handling starts going mad, don't panic. Let off the accelerator gently and steer back on to the track. Start jabbing at the brakes and you're out.



■ Turning and braking don't mix



■ Get your foot off that bloody throttle!

VER CHEATS

■ TOCA has got a shit load of cool cheats. All you have to do is type in a code when

you're asked to enter a name for your driver. To turn off a cheat just type in the code again. Lovely!

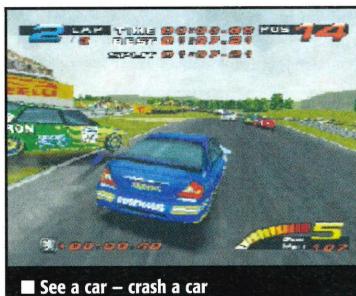
COURSE NOTES

CMSTARS
CMNOHITS
CMMICRO
CMGARAGE
CMCOPTER
CMCHUN
CMTOON
CMDISCO
CMLOGRAV
CMRAINUP
XBOOSTME
JHAMMO
CMFOLLOW
CMHANDY
CMUPSIDE
CMMAYHEM

Turns day into night, so you can race under a silvery moon
Switches off the collision detection, so drive right through the enemy
Transforms TOCA into Micro Machines, the original old version, that is
Wanna drive the tank and the flexmobile? Enter this code and you can
Four cameras not enough for you? Then try this extra helicopter one
Want more? How about this camera view that changes you into a go-kart
Turns the background horizon into a sappy Diddy Kong-style cartoon one
Use this to create a weirdo disco fog on the track. Trippin'
Stick on this low gravity cheat and it's as if you're driving on the moon
Makes the rain fall up into the sky... try it when bored
TOCA not fast enough for ya? This code gives you a constant speed boost
Access to all the tracks, including the secret Lavaland
Gives you a dinky trackside camera. Just like on the telly
Fancy monster hands holding the steering wheel?
Oh yes. An upside down view. That's entertainment
Turns your opponents into blood-crazed maniacs, just like you

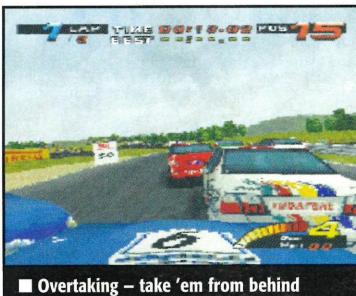
PLAY TO WIN

■ There ain't many rules in TOCA so don't be afraid to lash out at your opponents – they're all too happy to do the same. If you're up alongside another car turn into him and send him wide. Don't turn the other way or you'll follow him into a spin.



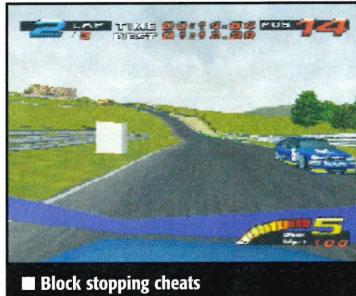
■ See a car – crash a car

■ Shunting from the back is cool too. Just get up behind your victim and gently nudge him as he approaches a corner. Wait till he starts to brake then step on the power – with luck you'll give him enough of a jolt to go off.



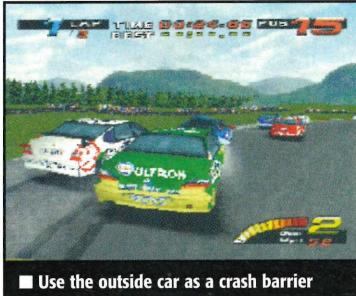
■ Overtaking – take 'em from behind

■ Blocking's a larf too. Make use of the rear-view to check when you've got a nasty coming up behind you, then move over to block him. Don't be doing this on a tight corner though or your enemy will scoff in your face.



■ Block stopping cheats

■ It's real hard to avoid coming off on some corners, so try and use the other cars as a guard rail. If you get the chance, keep to the inside of the bend and use the cars on the outside to protect you from skidding off.



■ Use the outside car as a crash barrier

LEARN THE COURSES

■ The tracks in TOCA are not exactly your normal run-of-the-mill ovals either. Most contain multiple bastard corners and don't reward the novice driver. Use the time trial and single race options to learn the courses properly.



■ This is time trial – use it wisely

■ The problem with practising is you only get access to the two easy tracks at the start. If you're playing an unfamiliar course the best thing to do is watch how other cars are driving. Eyeball their tail lights and you'll get clues about upcoming corners.



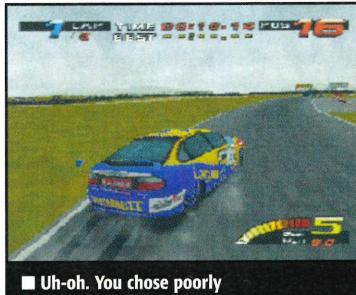
■ Looks like a corner coming

■ Don't get hypnotised by the other drivers' brake lights though – keep your attention on the track. They might know when a corner is coming up but the 'Station drivers can just as easily take a dive off the track, and you don't want to follow 'em.



■ Look, the muppet's come off the track

■ Make sure you pick the right car. Every car has its pros and cons and some are particularly good for specific tracks. It's no good choosing a speed master if you know the course is going to be stacked full of tight corners.



■ Uh-oh. You chose poorly

Instant Expert: TOCA Touring Car

THRUXTON

Time to use controlled speed in Hampshire.

COURSE NOTES

■ One of the fastest tracks in the game, Thruxton requires both speed and smooth controls. There aren't too many tight turns but the few you do

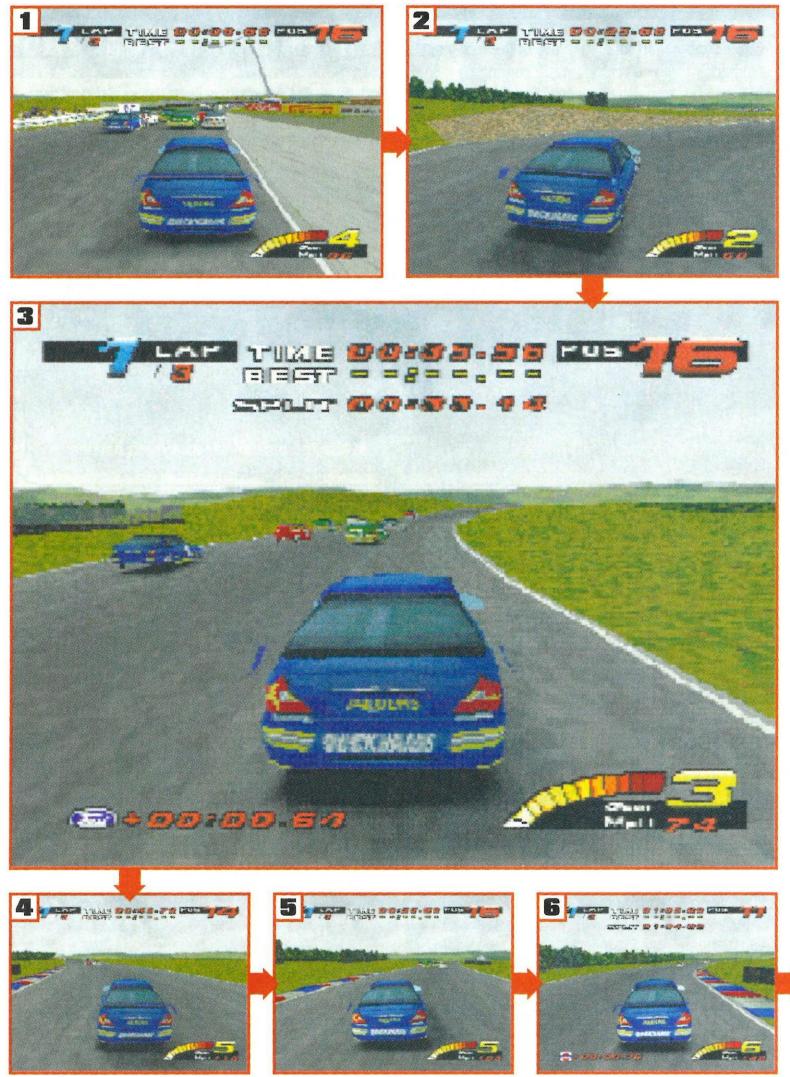
come up against are right bastards. The map might make it all look nice and easy but you can rest assured this certainly ain't.

THE FACTS

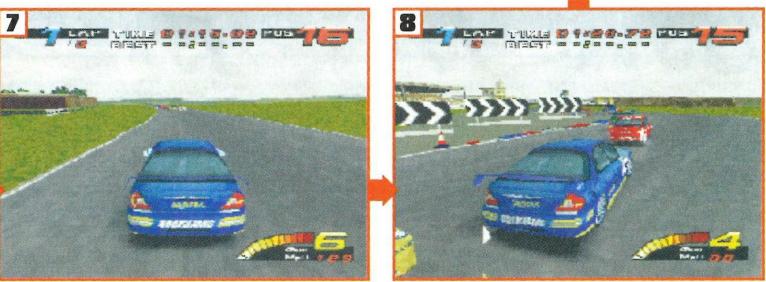
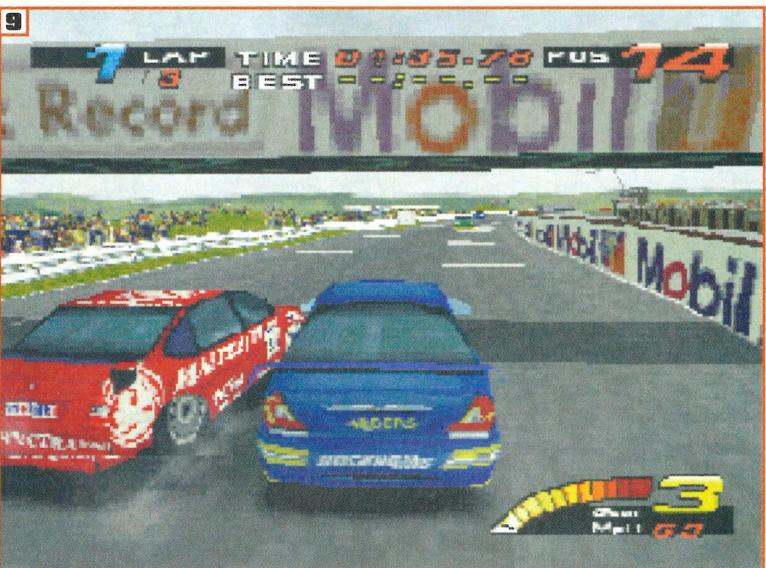
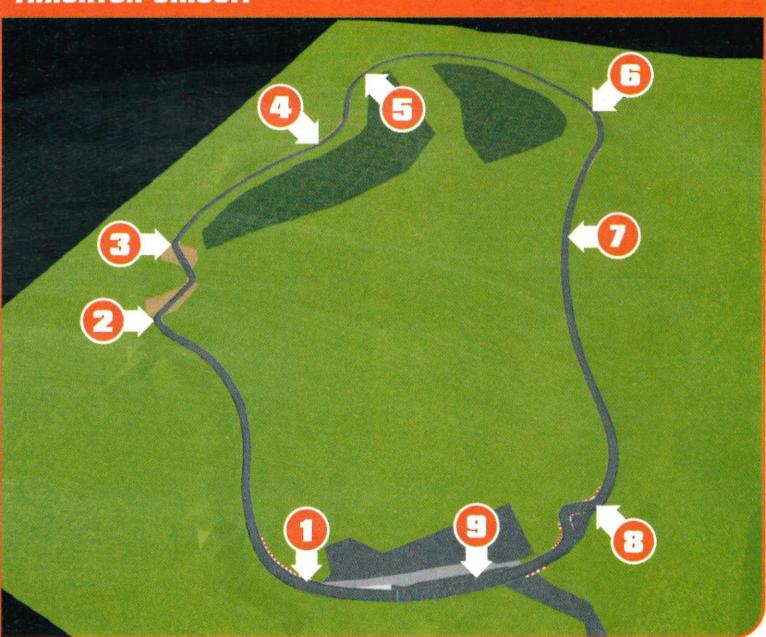
LOCATION Hampshire
TRACK LENGTH 2.36 miles
DEFAULT WEATHER Cloudy

BEAT DIS...

1:06.49



THRUXTON CIRCUIT



Recommended car

FORD MONDEO

Mr Average comes to town and wins you over with his driving skills. It's a good all-rounder, but doesn't excel in any area. It will take a bit of damage though, making it useful on tight courses or when playing a bumper car fan.

DRIVE

FWD

VALVES

24

POWER

295bhp - 8500rpm

ENGINE

V6 - 2000cc



■ Mondeo: favoured by reps and rally drivers

1 The first bend is to the right. Keep on that side of the road as you start. Be careful as the course narrows, and start to move left as you go downhill, ready for Campbell Corner
 2 Trouble corner. Begin braking then turn into the corner and accelerate out
 3 Turn left into Cobb Corner, then move to the right for Segrave. Things open up a bit after this so floor it as soon as possible
 4 Take the Noble Corner full speed, but don't throw the car left and right or you'll end up arse over tit
 5 A nice long gentle curve now, which should lead straight through Goodwood Turn. Village is bumpy as shit so keep it real smooth
 6 Heed the warning signs for Church Turn and slow down!
 7 Another long curve here, this time to the left, so whack on the turbo boost as you go into it
 8 Brake hard before the Club Chicane and lean into the first right-hand turn. Give the throttle a squeeze as you head towards a tight left/right combo then give the brakes a jab to make it through
 9 You should still have a good head of steam as you leave Club, so make damn sure you build on this as you go around the gentle curve that leads on up to Allard and the end of the lap

BRANDS HATCH

Kentish car trouble and one helluva bumpy ride.

COURSE NOTES

■ This course is rougher than a sandpaper condom. It's bumpy as hell, and also manages to be short, narrow, twisty and fast. As you'd expect

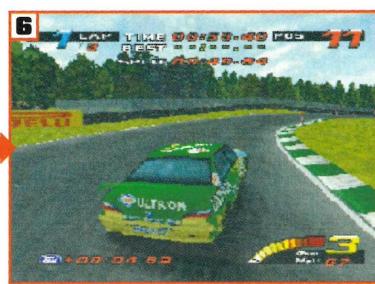
this causes quite a little demolition derby, so you'd better beware of the other cars just as much as you're aware of the track.

THE FACTS

LOCATION Kent
TRACK LENGTH 1.20 miles
DEFAULT WEATHER Cloudy

BEAT DIS...

0:38.45



BRANDS HATCH CIRCUIT



- 1 Lift off the throttle at the second braking marker and begin to stab the brakes at the third. Aim for the middle of the road, moving off to the left as you clear Hillwood Hill
- 2 A 180 degree hairpin to the right so brake in time. Be sure you turn smoothly and try to keep to the right-hand side of the track
- 3 If you took the last corner well you can go flat out on the next. If you didn't, let off on the throttle and make sure you don't slip off the track
- 4 This is a good place for passing so make your overtaking move here and beware of others trying the same thing
- 5 Surtees offers a lot of passing opportunities so don't run out too wide. Lift off the power and drift in, then accelerate out
- 6 Get ready for the snap to the right and the sharp uphill climb. Be ready to hit the brakes as the track shortens. You may have to feather the throttle
- 7 Put your foot down as you turn into Clearways
- 8 Clark Curve is a fine chance to put the pedal flat to the metal, 'cause it's really easy
- 9 Take the passing opportunity before you move back on to the first curve once more

Recommended car

■ PEUGEOT 406

This tasty little mota is the fastest bastard of the bunch. Unfortunately it falls down on handling with loads of oversteer and a tendency to lose it on nasty corners. If you can handle it though this is a real lap-beater.

DRIVE

FWD

VALVES

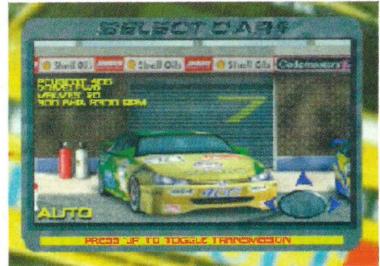
15

POWER

300bhp - 8300rpm

ENGINE

4 cylinders - 1998cc



■ Peugeot: A lap-beater if you can master it

Instant Expert: TOCA Touring Car

DULTON PARK

Slippery surfaces in sunny Cheshire.

COURSE NOTES

Like a lot of rounds this course looks plain easy till you try it. The problem is not the corners, but the road surface. It's made of some sort of special

concrete which makes tyre-grip a real problem. This'll have you wandering around with less balance than a half-pissed granny.

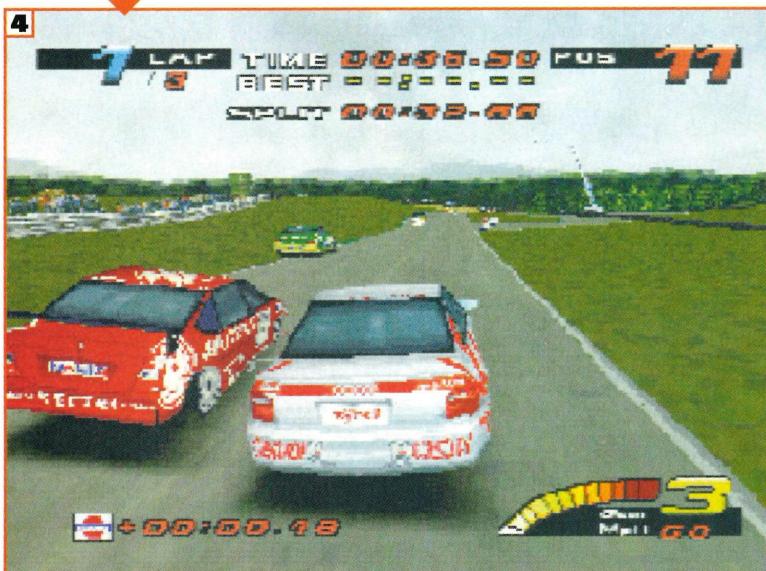
THE FACTS

LOCATION**Cheshire****TRACK LENGTH****1.66 miles****DEFAULT WEATHER****Sunny**

BEAT DIS...

0:51.14

DULTON PARK CIRCUIT



- 1 The first corner is a tight right-hander so careful. If you fancy it, keep the power on then pull out wide to the left as the corner tightens
- 2 Dentons is nothing to worry about but Cascades is trickier than it looks. It's a tight left so lift off before giving it a quick jab to get you on to Fosters
- 3 Hit the brakes hard, 'cos Fosters has a nasty turn at the bottom of the hill
- 4 After Fosters you've got a wide run to try some overtaking on. Get a hold before Knickerbrook as it's got a mega-bump on its left-hand side. Avoid that and you can keep the power on
- 5 Clay Hill is easy
- 6 Druids is tricky. Take your finger off the accelerator as you move into it then get back on it as you pass through the first half of the turn
- 7 Be on the left side of the track as you come out, for the right-hand Lodge Turn. Mind the bumps
- 8 Brake early for Lodge, take it easy and try and make sure you're doing 70-80 mph in third gear. You can't see the corner too well, but it is there and it'll have you if you don't slow down for it
- 9 It's easy from here on – the left kink at Deer Leap is nothing to someone of your skills – unless you're crap

Recommended car

AUDI A4

This is the only TOCA motor which has the advantage of being 4WD. So if you're worried about gripping the track this is the baby to go for. However, it is a bit slow on the slow side because of the porky weight of the 4WD.

DRIVE 4WD**VALVES** 15**POWER** 296bhp - 8250rpm**ENGINE** 4 cylinders - 1998cc

Audi: a bit of a pork beast but grips on tight

DONINGTON SHORT

It's always going to be dull and raining in Derbyshire

COURSE NOTES

If you enjoy wearing the blouses of oversized women then you might prefer this lite version of the Donington GP circuit. It knocks out the Esses

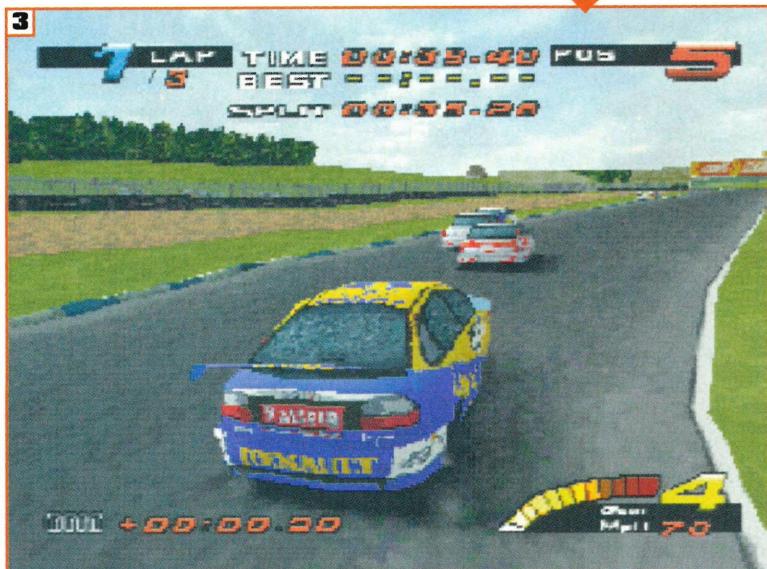
and Melbourne Hairpin Turns making for a quicker course, but creating a real pain in the ass at Goddards instead.

THE FACTS

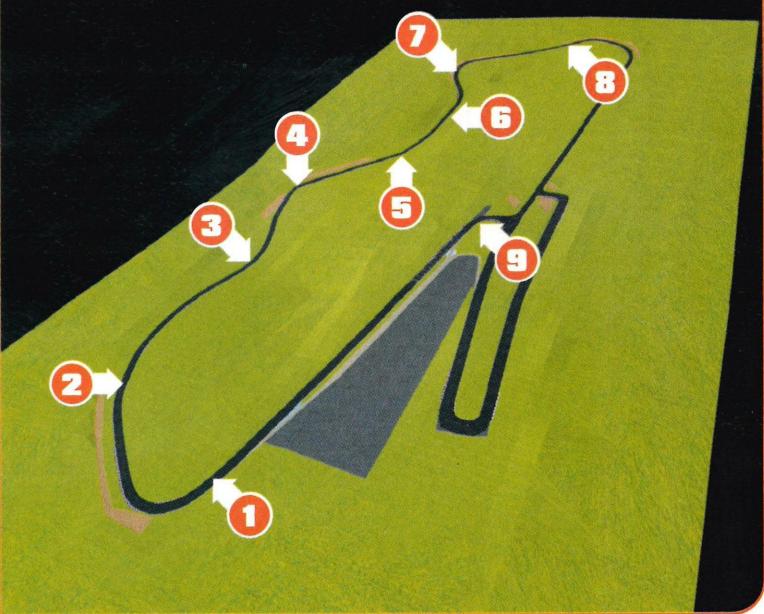
Location Derby
Track Length 1.96 miles
Default Weather Rain

BEAT DIS...

1:03.06



DONINGTON SHORT CIRCUIT



Recommended car

RENAULT LAGUNA

You'll never get a smooth ride in TOCA. But, in case you're a scaredy cat the Laguna is here to give you a sofa-smooth ride. It's under-powered, but you can't have everything. It don't take damage too well so try not to prang it.

DRIVE

FWD

VALVES

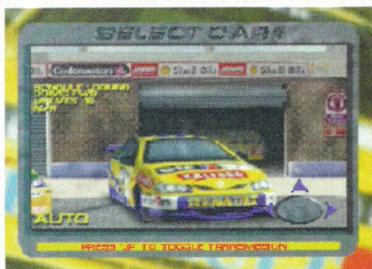
15

POWER

N/A

ENGINE

4 cylinders - 1998cc



■ Laguna: Hmm, a smooth kinda ride. Nice

- Keep to the left ready for the right-hander coming up. But you'll have to brake gently to avoid running wide on the left over the rumble strip
- Take the Hollywood Turn at full whack as long as you follow the racing line
- Craner Curves is almost as simple except it's full of bumps – so make sure you keep things straight or you'll spin off
- The Old Hairpin bend is tricky so brake early and line up to take it properly. Don't brake as you take the corner. Instead concentrate more on building up your speed as you go
- Swing right into Starkey's Bridge but then change to the left-hand side as you leave with the throttle full on
- Hold back and ease off for the left-handed Schwantz Curve
- Give the brakes a flick for the right-handed McLeans turn. Make your turn late to stop drifting wide to the left
- Speed up for the next uphill run, then get ready for Coppice. This is two turns joined by a short straight but you can treat it all as one
- Brake when you see the Esses approach, then make sure the turn is smooth



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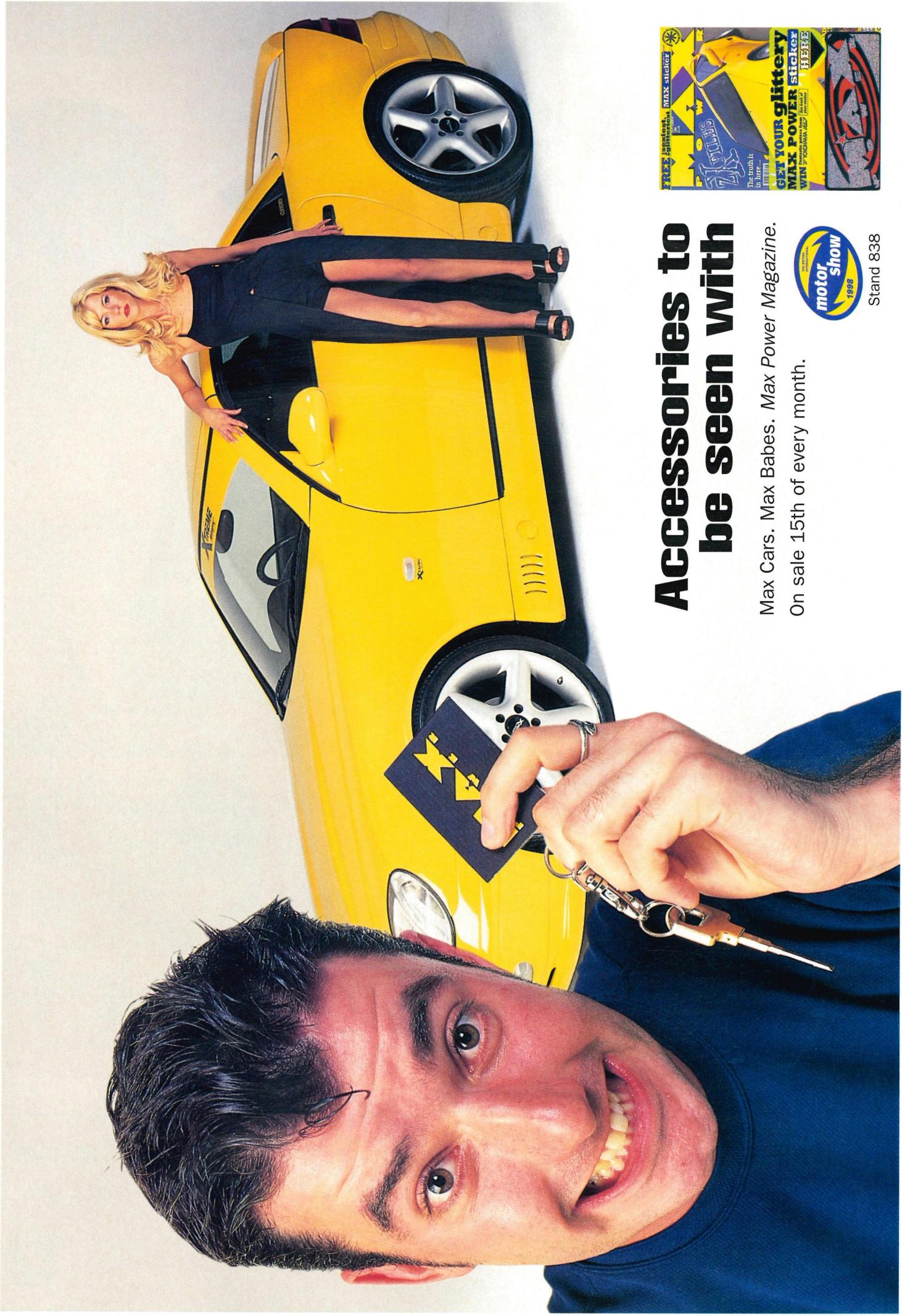
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Stand 838

Q&A

We've got stacks of hints, tips and moves. If you've got a problem, chances are we've got the solution. Write to the address on page 14 for yer answers.

ADAPTOR CRASH LINK FOUND

My Playstation keeps crashing when I play Vigilante 8. I think it's because there are too many plugs in the adaptor, got any ideas?

Lewis MacDonald

plus Just the one, Lewis my friend. You should try and unplug some of the other appliances and see how it works then, eh?

BASEBALL

What's the best baseball game on the 'Station? Craig Turnbull

plus Tricky one really, 'cos, see baseball's shit innit? The players wear leggings, and odd-sized gloves. They bollock on about home runs, bases, a bloke called Babe and the infamous diamond – let's face it, it's not normal. Do you really want to buy into all that? OK, give Big Hurt Baseball a go, it's made by Acclaim and it got reasonable reviews.

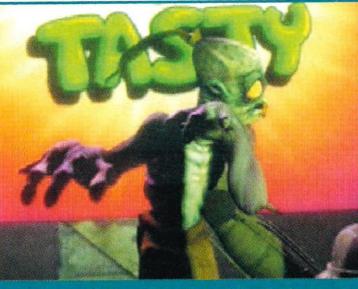
Abe's Oddysee

You've played the game, now you want the T-shirt

Abe's Oddysee. Help! I get to the big round ship type thingy and go to what I think should be another world, I get out and come to a door with the number two near by. How on earth do I get through? Is it possible to get a T-shirt of Abe? Is there a book on Abe? Sorry about all the questions. I'm an Abe babe!

Tina Sloane

plus Well Tina, we fear you may have the wrong end of the stick. You see you should ignore the door for now and go about your business, don't worry you'll come back to it later – trust me I'm a doctor. Now as to your other queries, as far as we know there is a book, which can be obtained from the Tottenham Court Road Computer Exchange or any other such games store. As for T-shirts, we've not come across any, which sounds like a gap in the market which you could readily exploit. Put us down for a large in blue.



plus Abe: we'd have the shirt off his back

COMMAND AND CONQUER

Command And Conquer Red Alert: Retaliation. Have you any cheats, for lots of money?

Phillip Ennis

plus What ever happened to hard graft? No these days everyone is after a fast buck, the easy way, and why not? Money good – hard work bad. So on that note try this little gem: Whilst playing pause the game and hit

↓ ↓ ← [R1] ← → ↓ .

When you've done this press [S] and go back to the game: \$5,000 better off.

DEAD BALL ZONE

How the f***ing hell do you activate the weapons in Dead Ball Zone? Please.

Mr Phillip Bunting

plus Mr Bunting the idea is that you play the game, get better and receive new and powerful weapons – it really is that simple.

DISC SWAPPING

Does frequent disc swapping damage my PlayStation, and should I just get it chipped or what?

Audi

plus Possibly and maybe. There is a chance that in the process of swapping you may damage your 'Station's motor, but it's a remote chance. Nevertheless, it is a chance goddam it. As for getting it chipped, well it could be well dodgy 'cos once it's chipped the Sony warranty is null and void, so for God's sake don't do it yourself, get someone else to do it who's willing to offer you a warranty on the work done. Alternatively you could try and be patient and wait for the games to come out over here – sorry, it's only an idea.

DISCWORLD 2

Could you please, please give me some help, tips, cheats, anything for Discworld 2. I haven't got very far. A walkthrough would be good.

Eleanor Savage

plus Indeed a walkthrough would be good, but unfortunately it would take up about half the mag, so why not try this web-site: <http://www.lspc.org/games/discworld>. It's got everything to ease your aching heart, and get you on the straight and narrow.

DYNASTY WARRIORS

Are there any secret characters in Dynasty Warrior, if so, how do I get them?

Ally Weaver

plus 'Fraid there aren't any piss easy ways to get the extra characters. You've really got to beat the game with Nobunaga, which ain't no walk in the park, still if you ever get there try this:

Colin McRae Rally

If in doubt... floor it!

Do you have any cheats for Colin McRae Rally?

Cheers!

Donald MacCol

plus No, cheers to you Donny boy, we've been waiting for someone to ask. No. Honest I have. Anyways, it's like this, and that the way it is. Enter yer name as any of these words.

DIDDY CARS

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PEASOUPER

BUTTONBASH

DIRECTORCUT

TROLLEY

Micro Machines view

Chrome car

Low gravity

All tracks

All cars

Co-pilot has squeaky voice

X2 power

Rear wheel steering

Looks loads faster on screen

Adds fog to all stages

Power accelerator

Allows play with replay

four-wheel steering



plus This is the part where the co-driver has a really squeaky voice. Hilarious. Hilarious



plus This one is rally difficult. All the same tracks in the same cars. But in the dark...

play as Toukichi, highlight one-player battle and press ↓ ↓ → ↑ × [R1] & [R2]. To play as Sun Shang Xiang, highlight one-player battle and hit ← ← ↑ ↓ × [L1] & [R1].

FELONY 11-79

Got any cheats for Felony 11-79?

Daniel O'Donnell

plus Reckon so, to get hold of all the cars do this: press [A], then quick as you like press and hold [R1] + [L2] + [R2], then release them, but keep hold of [A], then press and hold [R2] + [L2] + [R1], if you've done it right you should hear a noise.

Got a couple of shortcuts as well. The first is for the maze part in Paris, during the subway stage. When you're in the maze you should be able to go left or right. Go left, then at the next fork go left again. When you reach a white gate go down the ramp and then turn into the subway. Bingo, loadsa time saved.

The second shortcut is for the third stage. What you do is wait until you're out of the city, then head for the spiral ramp. In the pillar that you drive around there's a cut-out that's really quite small, although you can get a VW through. After that, enter the water area and drive straight to another ramp.

FORMULA 1 97

Could you please give me every cheat that's available for Formula 1 97, and more news on Formula 1 98 if you've got any. Cheers.

Tariq Atia

plus Feast your eyes upon these my man:

BONUS TRACK

To get the bonus track (called strangely enough Bizarre) you have to race in all 17 rounds in championship mode and come first, second or third in the championship. Obviously not much of a cheat more like a test of superhuman driving endurance.

CHEAT CODES

Enter these codes on the race qualify screen, do it quick, as timing is limited.

BUGGY MODE: Hold [SEL] and press

↑ ↓ ← → [A]

BIKE MODE: Hold [SEL] and press

↑ ↓ ← → [B]

LAVA MODE: Hold [SEL] and press

[A] ↑ → [X]

GIBBERISH MODE: Hold [SEL] and press

← → ↓ [B]

BONUS TRACK: Hold [SEL] and press

← → [A] [B] [C] [D]

As for the '98 edition seems it'll be out around December time, just in time for Santa Claus.



G-POLICE

Have you got any level codes for G-Police? I just can't do mission nine, that train always gets to the tunnel.

Jim Dinnen

plus We sense you're right at the end of your tether, yes? I also sense that on more than one occasion you have thrown your joypad down in a completely angered rage and gone and done something downright evil. Now put the knife down, sit down, calm down and listen; level nine code is YWVFHNAJ, level ten is WNLUSBJ.

Anymore problems try a bottle of vodka and twenty deep breaths. We find this always seems to do the trick for us.

Final Fantasy VII

No, it never stops

Can you help me kill Ruby?

Amy Dean

Plus Yeah, we can. But it is far from easy. It goes a little something like this...

What you'll need is: Mastered counter materia paired with mime. Knights of the round paired with HP absorb. Enough HP and defensive so you don't die in one hit. High magic rating, 200+. Ribbon. We recommend you have the these as well: 2 Knights of round charges. W-Summon. Master Summon with MP turbo, on different slots than the regular KOTR one. You with us so far?

Before you get going, kill off your other two party members (cruel, yes). When the fight starts, cast Knights of the round (W-Summon or without) on Ruby or the tentacles, although it doesn't matter which. Basically, everytime Cloud gets hit he'll automatically counter with KOTR and regain stacks of HP. It's a win-win situation.

Please tell me how to get a gold chocobo! I've got two river-mountain Chocobo's but I don't know what nut to feed them.

Daniel Chong

Plus Let 'em scarf down a Zeo nut and watch 'em rut like stags. They should produce a black Chocobo. Take the black fella, race him till he's A class, and let him romp with a head-down farm Chocobo. Result? Gold.

FINAL FANTASY VII PLATINUM?

Can you tell me when Final Fantasy VII will turn platinum?

Mr Blobby

Plus Well Mr Blobby, we'd say it'd be about the next time you have a hit record, or make us laugh, except of course in contempt.

Three CDs for under 20 quid? Why don't you just ask for, say, talent. It would be far more realistic.

RACING CHOCOBOS

Where the hell do you have to race the Chocobo's in FF VII?

R. Barrett

Plus What you need to do is go to Gold Saucer, and speak to Ester at the Chocobo's racing forum. Piece of piss.



Plus Hit the bright lights, young man. With a sword that large you'll go far...

ULTIMA WEAPON

Can you tell me how I get hold of the Ultima Weapon in FF VII?

F. L. Wang

Plus Well this is a little tricky, so listen closely... You fight him the first time and all you have to do is take his attacks, then give it loads for the next couple of rounds. The next time you fight him you have to take the highwind over Lake Junon.

There should be a large black monster over the lake. This is Ultima Weapon. When you fight him keep your attacks long range, when he's taken a pasting he'll piss off, so chase him in the highwind until he stops.

Fight him again. He'll make his final stop at Cosmo Canyon, if you beat him there he'll explode, making a passage into the Ancient Forest, then – and only then – can you get the weapon.



Plus This is your building block. Chuck this clucking beauty some Mimmett greens...



Plus Then take him down to the race track, and get him all Red Rummaged up...



Plus Search for materia and other consumer goods in little ratholes like this...



Plus Beef up your brave boys with the biggest materia you got to take on the Ultima Weapon

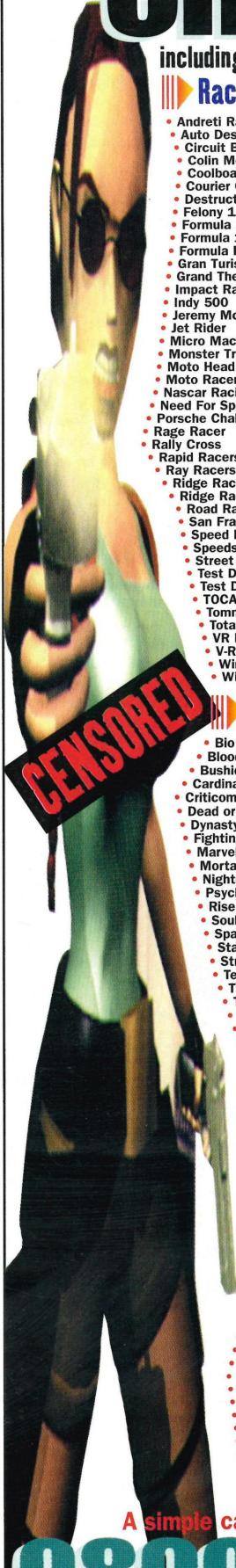
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- NASCAR Racing & '98
- Need for Speed 1, 2, 3
- Porsche Challenge
- Rage Racer
- Rally Cross
- Rapid Racers
- Ray Racers
- Ridge Racer
- Ridge Racer Rev
- Road Rash 3D
- San Fran Rush
- Speed Racer
- Speedster
- Street Racer
- Test Drive 4
- Test Drive off Road
- TOCA
- Tommi Makinen Rally
- Total Driving
- VR Powerboat Racing
- V-Rally
- Wing Over
- Wipeout 2097



Beat 'em up

- Bio Freaks
- Bloody Roar
- Bushido Blade 1 & 2
- Cardinal Syn
- Criticom
- Dead or Alive
- Dynasty Warriors
- Fighting Force
- Marvel Super Heroes
- Mortal Kombat 3, 4, Sub Zero & Trilogy
- Nightmare Creatures
- Psychic Force
- Rise of the Robot 2
- Soul Blade
- Spawn
- Star Gladiator
- Street Fighter Alpha 1, 2 & Ex Plus
- Tekken 1, 2 & 3
- The Incredible Hulk
- Total Number 1 & 2
- Toshinden 1, 2 & 3
- Vs
- War Gods
- X-Men Children of the Atom

Sports

- Actua Soccer 1 & 2
- Adidas Power Soccer
- Ball Blazer
- Dead Ball Zone
- Fifa '96, '97 & '98
- Int. Track & Field
- Jonah Lomu
- Madden '97 & '98
- Nagano Winter Olympics
- NBA Hangtime
- NBA Jam Extreme
- NBA Live '96, '97 & '98
- NBA Shootout '96, '97 & '98
- NBA Zone 2 & '98
- NFL Gameday '97 '98 & '99
- NFL '97 & '98
- NHL Breakaway '98
- NHL Face Off & '98
- Tennis Arena
- Three Lions
- Total NBA '97
- Triple Play '98
- Victory Boxing
- VR Baseball '97
- V-Tennis
- WCW Vs the World
- World Cup '98
- World League Soccer '98
- WWF War Zone
- WWF Wrestlemania

A simple call and you've got the cheats!

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Calls cost 50p a minute at all times. Average call time 2.3 minutes.
Hotline does not guarantee the accuracy of the cheats.
Automatic cut off at 6 minutes. Please seek permission of bill payer.

Platform

- Abe's Oddysee
- Bomberman World
- Bubble Bubble
- Bubsy 3D
- Bust a Move 1, 2 & 3
- Chessy
- Crash Bandicoot 1 & 2
- Croc
- D
- Death Trap Dungeon
- Excalibur 2555AD
- Fade to Black
- Final Fantasy VII
- Firo & Klawd
- Foresaken
- Frogger
- Gex & GEX 3D
- Gunship 2000
- Hercules
- Jersey Devil
- Jumping Flash 1 & 2
- Klonoa
- Kula World
- Lemmings 3D
- Lucky Luke
- Monopoly
- Pandemonium 1 & 2
- Parappa the Rapper
- Pitfall & Pitfall 3D
- Rascal
- Rayman
- Rosco McQueen
- Skull Monkey
- Spider
- Theme Hospital
- Tomraider 1 & 2
- Treasures of the Deep
- War Craft 2

Shoot 'em Ups

- Agile Warrior
- Air Combat
- Alien Trilogy
- Area 51
- Armored Core
- Assault Rig
- Auto Destruct
- Bomber Man World
- Carnage Heart
- Colony Wars
- Command & Conquer - 'Red Alert' & 'Retaliation'
- Contra Legacy of War
- Crime Killer
- Critical Depth
- Crusader No Remorse
- Darklight Conflict
- Dark Forces
- Descent Maximum
- Diablo
- Die Hard 1, 2, 3
- Disrupter
- Doom
- Duke Nukem Total Meltdown
- Final Doom
- Ghost in the Shell
- G-Police
- Hexen
- In the Hunt
- Krazy Ivan
- Loaded
- Loan Soldier
- Machine Hunter
- Magic Carpet
- Magic the Gathering
- Mass Destruction
- MDK
- Mech Warrior 2
- N20
- Nanotek Warrior
- Nuclear Strike
- One
- Poy Poy
- Project Overkill
- Ray Storm
- Robot
- Resident Evil 1, 2 & Dir. Cut
- Return Fire
- Shadowmaster
- Shell Shock
- Soviet Strike
- Star Fighter
- Steel Harbinger
- Steel Reign
- Tempest X3
- Tiger Shark
- Time Crisis
- Tunnel B1
- Twisted Metal 1 & 2
- Vigilante 8
- War Games
- Warhammer Dark Omen
- Warhawk
- Worms
- X-Com Terror From the Deep
- Xevious 3D
- Z

HotLine

Hotline, PO Box 50, PL 25 5YQ

Instant Expert: Your problems solved

Pity corner

I know I've screwed-up, please help me

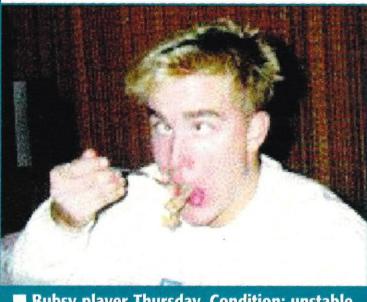
Now I know it's shit and I curse the day I ever ****ed bought it, but are there any cheats for Bubsy 3D?

Vince

ANSWER Refreshing honesty Vince, and the first part of solving a problem is admitting you have one. There are cheats, but none which make this game any better. Still give it a go. Try these codes, first select the LOAD/SAVE option, then enter one of these passwords:

ALL LIVES
99 LIVES
ALL ROCKETS
BONUS ROUND
COORDINATES
LEVEL SELECT
CHANGE SHAPE

XALLBUGCR
XMUCHOLIFE
XTOOROCKER
XBNSCHTMM
XDBGLOCNC
XVLCHTMSB
XURASNAKER



■ Bubsy player Thursday. Condition: unstable

THUMB THERAPY

I've owned a PlayStation for a short while, and my thumbs are totally f***ed, is there anything on the market to help?

Ian Cowenry

ANSWER Like anything in the world, you get out what you put in, so stop your whining and get playing. Do you really think that Jimi Hendrix moaned on like a old harpy about how his fingers ached? 'Course he didn't, he went and chucked to death on his vomit. Dedication.

TOTAL DRIVIN'

Have you got any cheats for Total Drivin'?
Bernard Leahy

ANSWER Yep, we've got some extra level cheats. When playing the Moscow 2 course use the ramps to go over the barriers, you'll see a building on the right, head for the left-hand side of the building where there's a bonfire, drive into it for an extra Moscow level with icy roads and open bridges.

There's one other hidden level in Moscow 2. To get to it, go over the ramp while pressing right, when you're over look for an alleyway between two buildings (it should have an orange light at the end), go down the alleyway to access the hidden level.

For an extra level on the Egypt level look for a temple on your right-hand side after a long left turn. Enter the temple from the side you're coming from, the level warper is on the other side of the temple.

The secret level on the Eastern Island level 2 is to be found by turning your car around and driving until you see a cruise boat. On your left-hand side you'll see a red and white barrier, behind is a road with a level warper at the end.

WWF Warzone

Grapple fans ready?

Will you print all the the finishing moves for WWF Warzone. Plus, any cheats would be handy, cheers. PS NO MOCKING THE NAME Terry Mycock

ANSWER If I was to mention the word penis, or crack a joke about changing your first name to 'Suck', or even 'Sit on' we would be very disappointed with ourselves. To poke fun at your name would be cruel, needless and cheap. To business. Finishing moves first. They only work when your opponent's power is on red.

KEN SHAMROCK: ▶ □ ← KICK when opponent is on the ground.

GOLDUST: ▶ □ TIE-UP when standing behind opponent.

SHAWN MICHAELS: ▶ □ ↑ KICK when standing in front of the opponent.

'STONE COLD' STEVE AUSTIN: ▶ □ ↑ + (TIE-UP & BLOCK AT SAME TIME) when standing in front of your opponent.

MANKIND/CACTUS JACK/DUDE LOVE:

▶ ← ↑ TIE-UP when standing in front of your opponent.

KANE: ▶ □ ↓ + (PUNCH & TIE-UP AT SAME TIME) when standing in front of your opponent.

UNDERTAKER: ▶ ↓ TIE-UP when standing in front of your opponent.

THE ROCK: ▶ □ ↑ + (PUNCH & TIE-UP AT SAME TIME) when standing in front of your opponent.

THE BRITISH BULLDOG: ↑ ↑ TIE-UP when standing in front of your opponent.

AHMED JOHNSON: ▶ TIE UP ↑ + (KICK & BLOCK AT SAME TIME) when standing in front of your opponent.

THRASHER: (TIE UP & BLOCK AT SAME TIME) when standing on the top rope and your opponent is down.

FAOOQ: ↑ ↑ ↑ + (TIE-UP & BLOCK AT

SAME TIME) when standing in front of your opponent.

ALTERNATE COSTUMES

To change the wrestlers' outfits hold down **L2** whilst choosing your wrestler. For more outfits make sure difficulty is set on medium or hard.

BEANS MODE

To get Beans mode, win the world title with Mosh on medium difficulty.

BIG HEAD

Beat the challenger mode with the British Bulldog.

BONUS WRESTLERS

To play as Dude Love or Cactus Jack, win the title as Mankind in one player VS game. To play as Sue the Ring Girl, win the title as Bret Hart or Owen Hart on medium difficulty.

CHEAT MENU

To get to the cheat menu press **L1** as the main menu is going up, then press **R1** to go down to the basement. Here's where you'll find your cheats.

EGO MODE

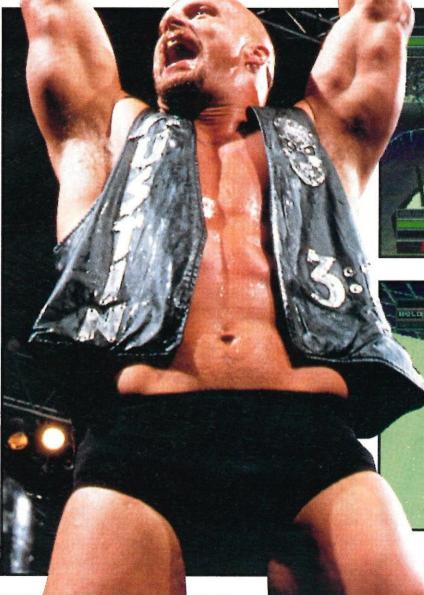
To get this, win the world title with Ahmed Johnson on medium difficulty. In this mode your head gets bigger as you cause more damage to your opponent.

LADIES NIGHT

To create a female wrestler, complete challenge mode with H or Shaun Michaels.

NO WIMPS MODE

For the 'no wimps mode', which de-activates all blocking moves win the title with Ken Shamrock on medium or hard mode.



1 Slam! 2 One in the eye 3 Tag: You're on 4 Help us with this shoe, mate

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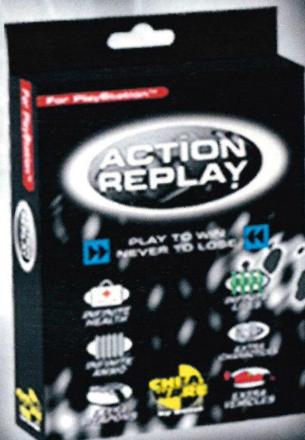


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NEVER TO LOSE



wimp, jessie, wet, slacker,
half wit, loser, thicko...

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AVAILABLE 6TH NOVEMBER 1998



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Rated

WE TEST AND SCORE EVERY NEW PLAYSTATION GAME THIS MONTH

We promise that every game and every product here has been tested by us. We're 100% independent: we don't take bribes, we don't worry about what our advertisers think, we don't hype games and we never bullshit you. We always tell you what we really think about a game, so you can trust us when you rent or buy...

HOW WE RATE STUFF

0-50%	Total toss
51-60%	Just toss
61-70%	Only okay
71-80%	Good, not great
81-90%	Almost classic
91-100%	Essential play



Look out fat tourists, it's road rage, Rogue Trip style...

BEST RATED THIS MONTH

- p76 Tenchu**
Stealth ninja fighters start slittin' throats
- p78 Rushdown**
Three adrenalin sports in one
- p80 Pet in TV**
Er, it's the Tamagotchi for your 'Station
- p80 V2000**
Time to get blasting them bugs
- p81 Victory Boxing 2**
Don your gloves and get ringside
- p82 Bust-A-Groove**
The first ever disco dance 'em up
- p84 Moto Racer 2**
Shockingly good motorbike racer
- p86 The Unholy War**
Not against the Swiss, then



p87 Nascar 99
High boredom racer

p88 Spyro the Dragon
Cute dragon. Ace game

p89 NFL Extreme 99
Extreme? We'll see...

p90 Rogue Trip
Kill tourists. Yes!

p92 Biofreaks
Mutants go maul 'em up mad

p93 NHL 99
Some American bollocks

p94 V-Rally Platinum
All the mud you can eat

p95 Grand Theft Auto Platinum
Brilliant at half price

Get sussed! Our honest scores on every PlayStation game ever released... PLUS! Game gear, CACA, charts, celeb graves, babes and lots of other stuff. Starts p107

the **Knowledge: updated every month**

D	Company	Acclaim	Players	Memory card?	Link-up?	Mouse?	Multiplax?	£	Rating
Dark Forces	Acclaim	1-4	1	Yes	No	No	No	£44.99	93%
									Take you an hour to complete.
Darklight Conflict	Acclaim	1-4	1	Yes	No	No	No	£44.99	84%
									Star Wars theme.
Darkstalkers	Acclaim	1-4	1-2	Yes	No	No	No	£44.99	87%
									Memory card? Link-up? Mouse? Multiplax?
				30 missions					30 missions, intense, strategic, gameplay and it difficult to master.
Davyon Cup Tennis	Acclaim	1-4	1-4	Yes	No	No	No	£44.99	78%
									Street Fighter meets tennis.
Dead Ball Zone	Acclaim	1-4	1-2	Yes	No	No	No	£34.99	94%
									Memory card? Link-up? Mouse? Multiplax?
				We return to the 80's with the world's best tennis titles to date.					Hyper-tennis with 3D graphics.
Dead or Alive	Acclaim	1-4	1-2	Yes	No	No	No	£59.99	95%
									Special Analogue pad
									Memory card? Link-up? Mouse? Multiplax?
									Hyper-violent soft-core sport game. With characters.
Deathtrap Dungeon	Acclaim	1-4	1-2	Yes	No	No	No	£44.99	94%
									Memory card? Link-up? Mouse? Multiplax?
									Excellent fighter with added bouncing tools. Top job.
Desert Strike: Operation Barrage	Acclaim	1-4	1-2	Yes	No	No	No	£49.99	96%
									Memory card? Link-up? Mouse? Multiplax?
									Tank Raider-style adventure. But with awards.

Rise off

celebrities we hate



1. Zoe Ball
Listen carefully to Zoe on the radio.
Hear how she has a lot of trouble
breathing like she has to take big
gasping breaths between sentences.
pure crap. Wouldn't it be great if she
could just have normal breathing?



2. Chris Evans
Outside Liverpool Street station in London is a huge poster advertising Chris Evans' radio programme. Somebody has written 'I'm a prick' across his face. We'd like to shake the person by the hand.



TENCHU

You've got a gurt big sword. You're armed with the kind of weapons most sensible governments confiscate at customs. One problem: you're wearing slippers...

Ninjas. Sneaky bastids, creeping here, crouching there. And when you're not looking, they'll slit your throat. But you're lucky this time, 'cos you're the one doing the sneaking and slitting shit. Shame about the black pyjamas though...

Death, ninja style

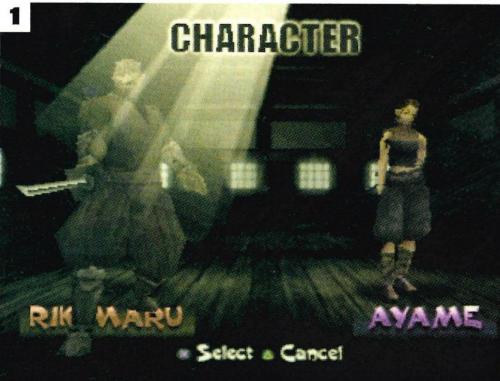
Let's face it, ninjas ain't the sort of blokes to wade in, fists flying, screaming, 'come and 'ave a go if yer think yer 'ard enough'. Y'see, they're all about stealth. You gotta lay low, stick to the shadows crawl around on the rooftops, have a spy on your enemies, and just when you think they're not looking silently move in and cut 'em. Think clinical, think ruthless.



1 Patience and stealth are your watchwords 2 He hasn't seen you yet... 3 And thanks to a swift blow from behind he never will 4 Done the business? Then it's time to creep out and find your next victim...

What's the point?

The whole point of the game is to recover some dumb princess called Kiku who's got herself captured by badass blokey, Ghost Master. You can only reach said royal tartlet by completing various missions and knocking off shitloads of chopsocky samurai until you get to the rock-solid boss geeza. Sounds easy? Well it freakin' ain't, OK?



1 Do not approach this man... 2 His sword isn't for wood carving... 3 It's for human kebab-making

What we like

Clairvoyant killer

Let's face it, ninjas are quite something. Not content with being rubber-jointed death machines, they've also got a large dose of the ol' sixth sense. Yep, you heard right, they can sense when they're near an enemy and can even tell whether the enemy's spotted them. So here, you get a gauge displayed on the bottom left of the screen: if it shows a question mark you're cool, if it shows a couple exclamation marks then you've been rumbled...



1 Keep an eye on the question mark 2 They know someone's there 3 Now they know it's you

Move like the wind

Choosing ninjas is like deciding whether to go for vodka and orange or a straight Jack Daniels – you want one of 'em, but it all depends what sort of mood you're in. It's the same here: do you go for feisty ninja-chick Ayame, or big bloke Rikimaru? The little lady's cute and dead fast, but she's a girl so she's not that hard. Tough guy Rikimaru packs a helluva punch and likes lurking down dark passageways, but that's enough of his sexual preferences...



1 She lacks the tackle but she's definitely a bit of a Tomboy... 2 Who likes nothing more than climbing on roofs... 3 Swinging on ropes... 4 Throwing knives... 5 And kicking ass. Cool, huh?

Be good, quick

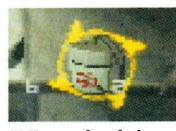
To get well and truly ninja-fied you've gotta learn how to hug walls, crouch down, gauge the time to attack and know what to do if you're spotted. It's always best to attack from the roofs if you can, but sometimes there aren't any, so stick to terra firma and do it sneaker pimp-style.



1 You've sussed where he is... 2 Watch his patrol patterns... 3 Make sure he's on his Jack Jones... 4 Select a weapon... 5 Take aim... 6 Fire 7 If he's still got a pulse, finish him off

Come and get yer weapons

If you're talking wepaons, don't expect anything too hi-tech. Tenchu's set back in the mists of time, so gunpowder's the new kid on the block, but ninja blokes think it's too flash, and stick to swords and stuff. Well, a big sword, a selection of knives and throwing daggers, makeshift grenades and other old skool weaponry. Ah, takes you back to the days when violence really was violence.



■ Hmm, nice choice from the ninja aisle



■ This one is great for hounding dogs



■ Simple yet effective – the grenade



■ Can't beat some medicine



■ Handy for those sly chases



■ Coloured rice – how nice



■ Number 43: poisoned rice



■ Smoke bomb, do not inhale

plus

We'd like to say...

OK, so Tenchu ain't the most visually exciting game, but it redeems itself handsomely by being well playable and more addictive than class A narcotics. Or so we're told. The missions are varied and the characters are cool, so you better check it out, all right?

So many enemies

No-one said it'd be easy for our silent assassins. They've got every man, woman and wild thing after their asses. Some are total wimps, like the archers which can't hit jack shit. The foot soldiers are a bit tougher, especially if they gang up on you, but where's the honour in that? Dogs are way annoying, nipping at yer ankles and generally pissing you off, so forget they're puppy dogs and run 'em through with your blade. Toughest of all the badasses are the enemy ninja. Like you, they're well handy with a sword, but they still haven't got to grips with all that sneakin'. Advantage you, we reckon.



■ Steady with that bow



■ What complete bullies



■ Down Rover for Pete's sake

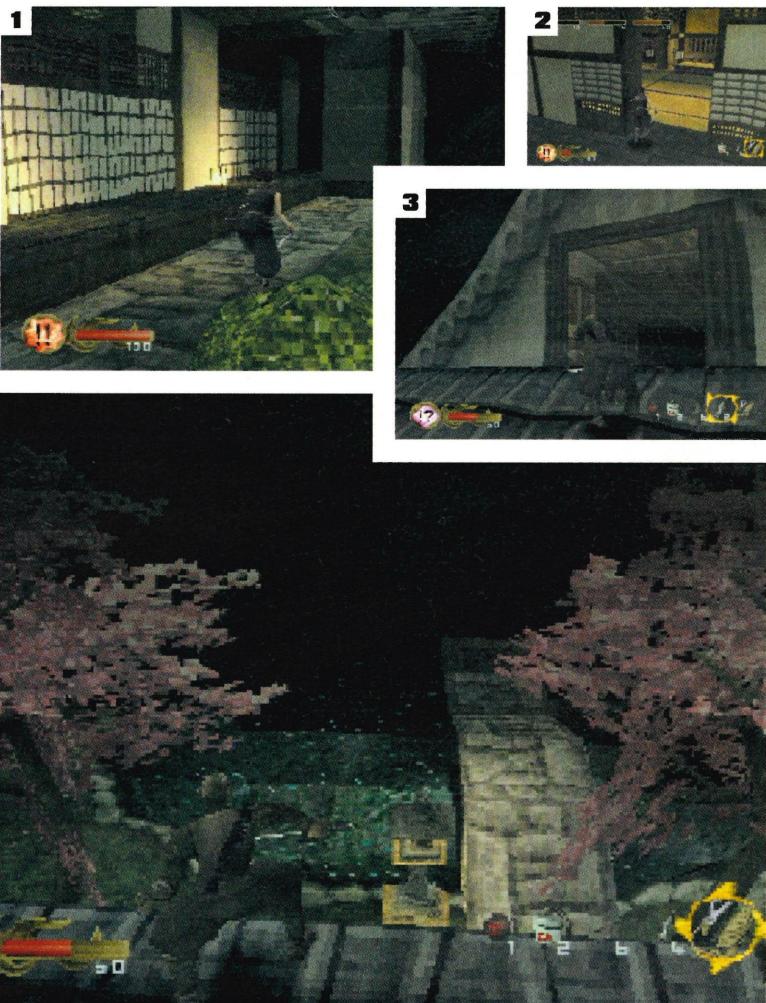


■ Shit! get outta here

»

Bit of a looker?

The graphics are realistic, but not in-your-face. The backgrounds are well impressive and because most of the action occurs in shadowy areas the vibe is dark and tense. This ain't one for the more weak willed among us. It's well scary stuff and after this little lot a walk back from the pub on your own is not an enjoyable experience...



1 Do they not need glass in their windows...? 2 What about doors? 3 Shouldn't leave that open
4 Lovely water features

What we don't like

Make your move

Our only gripe with this otherwise nugget of a game is with the control system, which makes it a bit difficult to move your ninja during a ruck. It's too easy to get the wrong side of an enemy, leaving you unable to dish death until you've faffed about and turned around. It does get easier with a bit of practice, but we still think it's a bitch for the beginner. So there.



1 Don't just charge in...



1 'Cos you might miss

winner Could be the definitive ninja game. It's well thought out, well executed and sexier than shagging on a bed of bank-notes. Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 92%

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY INFOGRAMES ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

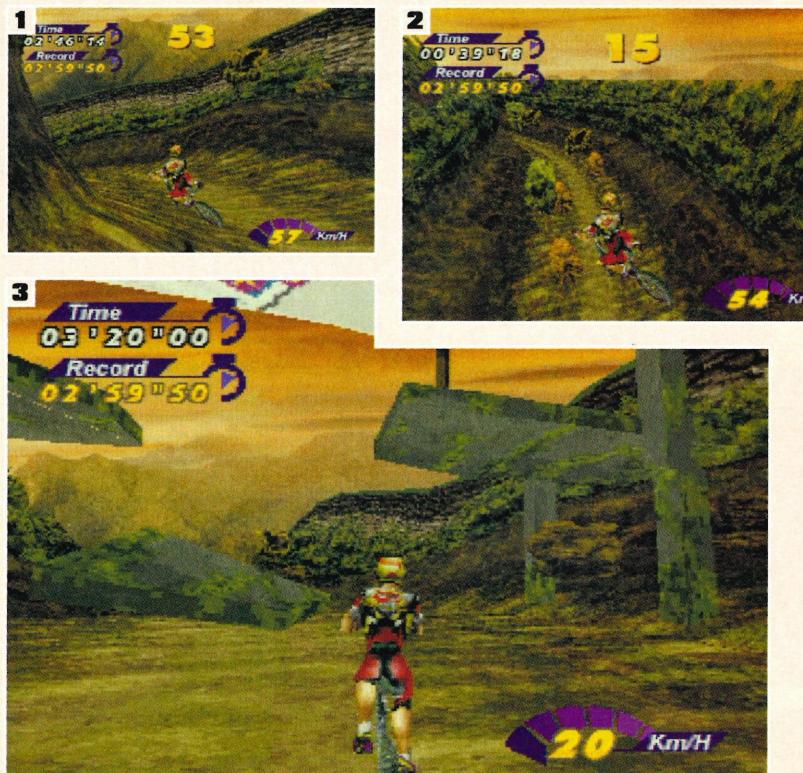
RUSHDOWN

Get extreme thrills with kayaking, mountain biking and snowboarding. To the max, man.

Propel yourself down huge snow-capped mountains on a rickety old bike, some cruddy canoe or a snowboard. Yup, get three brown-trouser sports for the price of one and still have change for some Special Brew.

Heart palpitations

Ah, the wind in your hair and your heart in your throat, nowt like it. Now the couch veggies among you can indulge in three sports without ever having to change disc. That's what we call progress. As far as excitement goes it's a mixed bag: mountain biking wades in first on the white knuckle-o-meter, followed by snowboarding and then kayaking (or canoeing as we call it). It has to be said the kayaking mode is about as exiting as a downer party with your gran, but hey, two out of three ain't bad.



1 Don't worry, it's a bridleway 2 If in doubt – jump 3 Put yer back into it 'cos no-one said it was going to be a quiet Sunday ride, get your arse out of the saddle and get pumping

Ghost in the machine

One cool little touch is the option to have a ghost of your previous effort race with you during the arcade retry race. It definitely helps to sharpen your game and make you the daddy. It's hilarious to see how bad you were, but totally depressing when your own ghost beats you. So best knuckle down and cancel your holiday.



1 Do not let him beat you 'cos he's a shadow of your former self...

1 And on the left-hand side is the ghost of shite playing past

What we don't like

The choice isn't yours



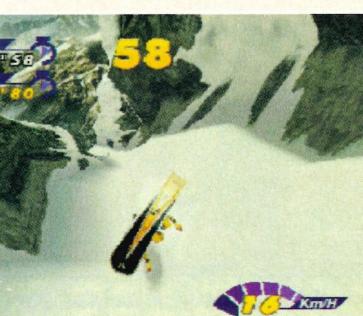
There're only four different bits of kit available for each of the three disciplines, which is damn stingy. It would have been cool to choose between a few more, but as it stands you have the choice of, 'as fast as is humanly possible to withstand but with zero handling,' or vice versa. And for those of you who really don't want to commit there's something in between. And you can have whatever you want as long as it's in...

- 1 This one's fast...
- 2 This takes corners like Damon Hill
- 3 This one's totally bog standard
- 4 Evens out in the end though...



Head down action

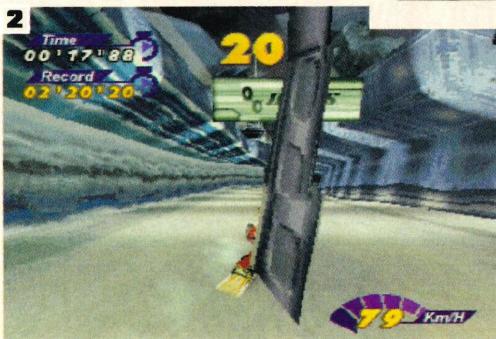
There's the option to do scary shit all over the world. Choose from Africa, Europe, America, Asia and Japan. By the time you get to Japan — the last area — it's getting a bit hairy, all tight corners and unravelling tunnels, so tape your eyes open and mainline some strong coffee, 'cos you'll be seeing a lot of the quit/retry screen.



- 1 There's not much support from the locals...
- 2 It could be it's too cold...
- 3 Or that you're actually rather crap...
- 4 Yep, that'll be it...

Sow or supermodel?

The game's no plain Jane, in fact this is dammably attractive. It moves with the sort of style and swagger normally associated with incredibly expensive, gorgeous women. The only slight problem at the moment is the fact that boulders and random bits of mountain are about as solid as air... But then that can only help your ride.



- 1 There are tricky bits aplenty
- 2 Very soft metal
- 3 The view from the hill is stunning and rather sexy...
- 4 Totally radical...
- 5 As they fly are off into the side of a mountain

plus

We'd like to say...

This game is a really top idea 'cos it combines three cool sports on one disc, which for those of us who are financially challenged — read: skint — makes mucho sense. But, and there's always a 'but', it seems the jam was spread too thinly: too much ends up being too little, and one sport done well beats three done luke-warm in our book.

Billy no mates

One thing's for sure, competition's a bit thin on the ground. During championship mode there's only one other fellow radical-type dude to race, so as soon as he hacks off leaving you floundering in his wake, you're on your Jack Jones with nothing but a faint arrow to remind you of the competition. Still, after a while it'll spur you into catching him up, if only for the company.



■ I could have been a contender...



■ Instead of a bum

As a package, this has got some nice little features, and it'll keep you amused. But there's a nagging feeling that three sports here is two too many... Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 78%

■ OUT NOW ■ BY SONY ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

PET IN TV

Just think Tamagotchi squared. Yup. Electric pet horror... Avoid! Avoid!

It's a virtual pet. Sure, it doesn't shit on you or bite you. But you'll be watching the little twat try and figure what a rock does or whether a shit is a tasty eat, and you'll be wanting to do stuff that would make RSPCA members cry...

Kid stuff

'Dad! I'm hungry!' 'Dad! Give me money for drugs!' 'Dad! Untie me from this stake in the garden!' Bloody kids. Always moaning. This one should shut 'em up good, though. The kind of 'stroke pet on head', 'talk to pet', 'tell the twat where to go' action we got here's waaaay too slow and stupid for Joe Adult. One for the kids. For sure.



1 Tell the bastard where to go... 2 Advise him how to interact with objects, so he can 'learn' 3 He's a moody bugger. But you can make him eat shit. Literally. 4 The house computer asks weird questions

The surreal thing

When the Japanese water board decided to put hallucinogens in the water way back in 1947, even they couldn't have predicted just how odd things'd get half a century later. This goes off the scale weird-wise. A little bloke with rotor blades and a funny head trying to work out whether to eat a tree? Go figure.



Well. It's dead simple, real colourful, dead dull. It'd be an ideal Xmas prezzie for sprogs, but we think it's immoral to spend £40 on ungrateful little shits. Get 'em socks. Rob

PlayStation
plus

RATED 60%

■ OUT NOW ■ BY GROLIER ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

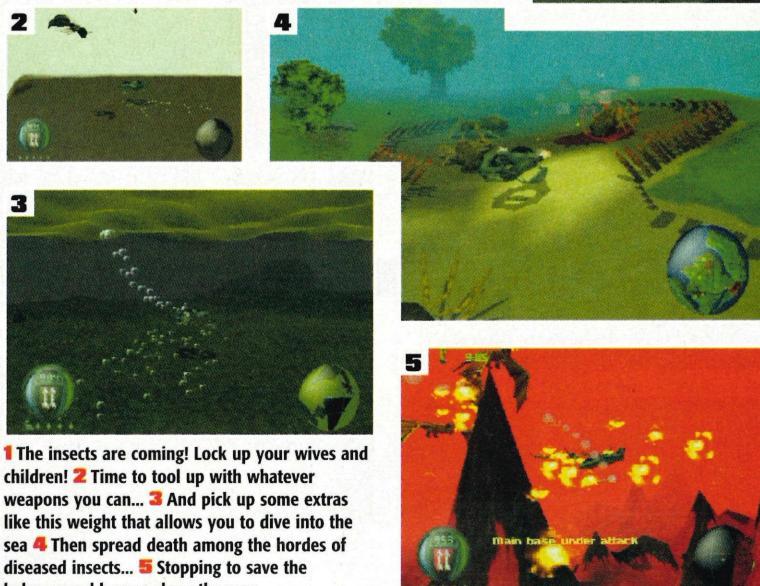
VIRUS 2000

...And the final score is: Insectoid aliens: 0. Lone hero in spaceship: 3008...

Wipe that grin off your mandibles. I saw you. At least twelve of your compound eyes were looking at me funny.' Yup. It's time to go bug-spray apeshit. The insects are coming. Kill! Kill! Kill!

Gameplay

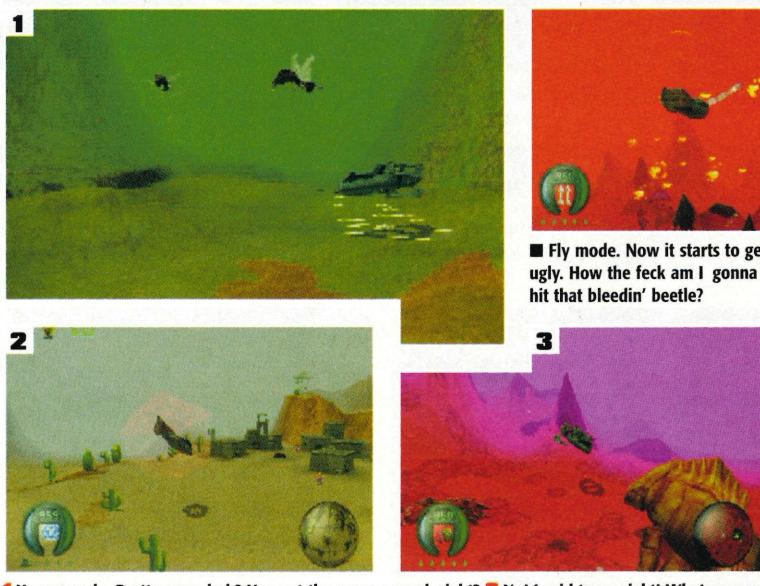
Anything with more than its fair share of eyes is toast. The insects are in town, and you've got to welcome them with a Rentokil party. You've got to fly around blasting them and rescuing human beans. Last man (or bug) standing wins...



1 The insects are coming! Lock up your wives and children! 2 Time to tool up with whatever weapons you can... 3 And pick up some extras like this weight that allows you to dive into the sea 4 Then spread death among the hordes of diseased insects... 5 Stopping to save the beleaguered humes along the way...

Work, damn you!

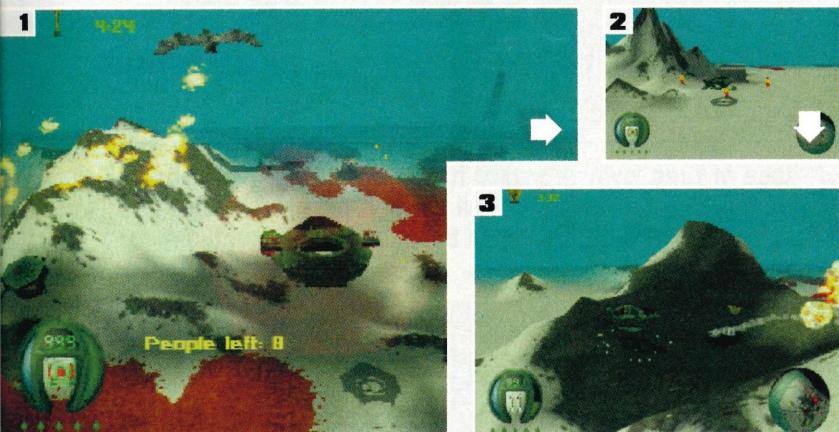
Flying and shooting in Virus ain't easy. You say to your craft: 'Fly!' 'Shoot!' It responds 'Wobble!' 'Crash!' For the first few levels, craft handling fair got our ulcers throbbing. Then we got to grips with it. Then they added strange pockets of wind and turbulence...



1 Hover mode. Pretty easy, huh? You got the game sussed, right? 2 No! I said to go right! What are you doing, you damn stoopid machine! 3 Once they start putting in serious hazards, you dead, fool...

Slavery

One thing that makes us fine upstanding human fellows different from Johnny Insect is our attitude to labour relations. The bugs, you see, are communists. You, however, my friend are a true-blue Tory. Whenever you see your fellow humans, you abduct them and force 'em to work in your factory, building new guns. Harsh but fair.



1 First find your human and beam him up into your spaceship 2 And then enslave him in your factory
3 New guns! Bonus!

plus

We'd like to say...

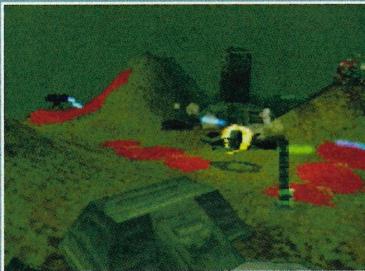
This 'un's another retro gaming classic that's been dug up and polished. The original Virus was a full-on classic back in its day, but time's taken its toll. There's plenty gameplay here, but it's a touch repetitive and wishy-washy for our refined modern palates. And a couple of secret bits and optional routes do not a new game make...

Strategy

It ain't just a question of dusting those creepy-crawlies as fast as you can. You gotta be thinking strategy as well: thing is, if the bugs manage to spill too much virus on your turf or carry off too many of your blokes it's goodnight from you, so you gotta guard yer resources well. And the other thing is, the strategy stuff ain't gonna blow your mind, but it'll keep it ticking over...



■ Keep watching the map for insect activity...



■ Then get to where your men are under threat



■ Start wiping out the insects by any means...



■ And there're plenty o' ways to do it...

A few notches short of being a real knee-trembler. There're good ideas in there, but it's a bit repetitive, the controls fry your head and the graphics are patchy. Rob

PlayStation
plus
RATED 70%

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY JVC ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

VICTORY BOXING 2

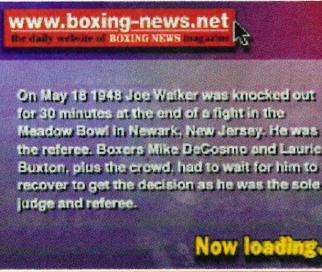
Take yer ringside seat, it's fight time.

If you thought boxing was about two boneheads mindlessly punching the crap out of each other wearing natty satin shorts, you'd only have half the story right...

What we like

Oh, for facts sake

While the game is loading it shares some great little fight facts: for instance did you know that the longest recorded bare-knuckle fight lasted six hours and fifteen minutes? Now that's a ruck.



■ Games can be educational...



■ And mind-numbingly violent too

Controlled violence

Remember this is supposed to be some kind of noble artform. You can't just wade in giving it loads. Good God no: you must employ craft and guile, one sporting brain pitting wits against another. Victory Boxing 2 offers something more than pure uncoordinated violence.

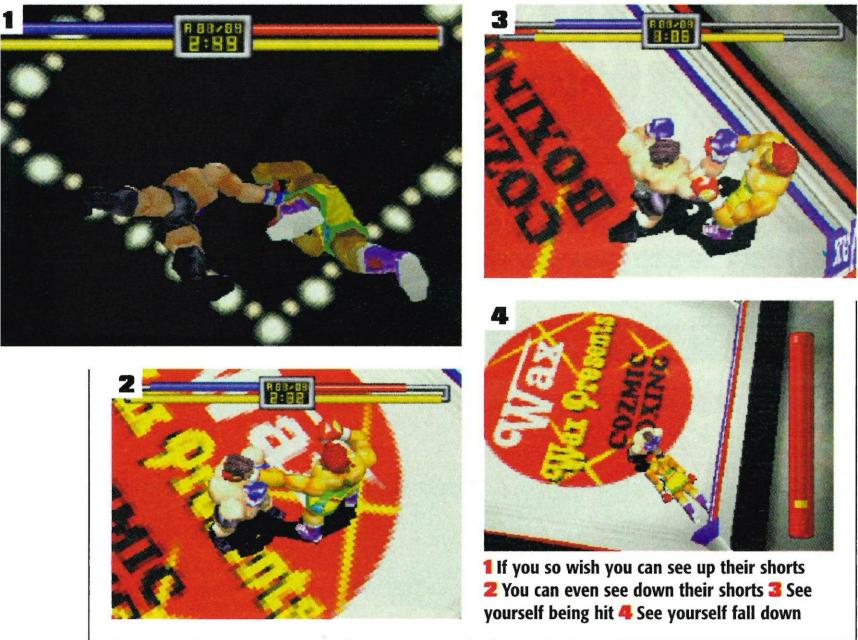
So this means there's no point in just bashing those button until your thumbs are sore — there's no point.



1 Make sure you keep yer guard up... 2 You can bide yer time... 3 Duck and weave, testing the water... 4 Then, smackola Sonny Boy...

Punch drunk

There's a variety of punches available, ranging from little jabs to all-out uppercuts. It's best to combine these into terrifying attacks. Keeping your guard up is most definitely recommended, otherwise you'll get well battered. Patience is the key.



plus

We'd like to say...

At first glance this game may seem a little limited next to other beat 'em ups as there's no variety of moves. But when did you last see a boxer flipping over and crushing someone's brain between his knees?

Meatheads vs weedyboys

Big is not always better, sometimes ickle, quick people are best, befuddling the dinosaurs of the ring into submission with their quick combos and twinkle-toed footwork. Other times though, nothing beats a big bloke smashing in with a right hook making the opponents brain literally vibrate, it's very, very satisfying.



This really is not a bad boxing game. It's quite absorbing and needs a little bit of thought. If you don't live and breathe boxing it could become a tad boring though. Rich

PlayStation
RATED 79%

■ OUT NOW ■ BY SONY ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

BUST-A-GROOVE

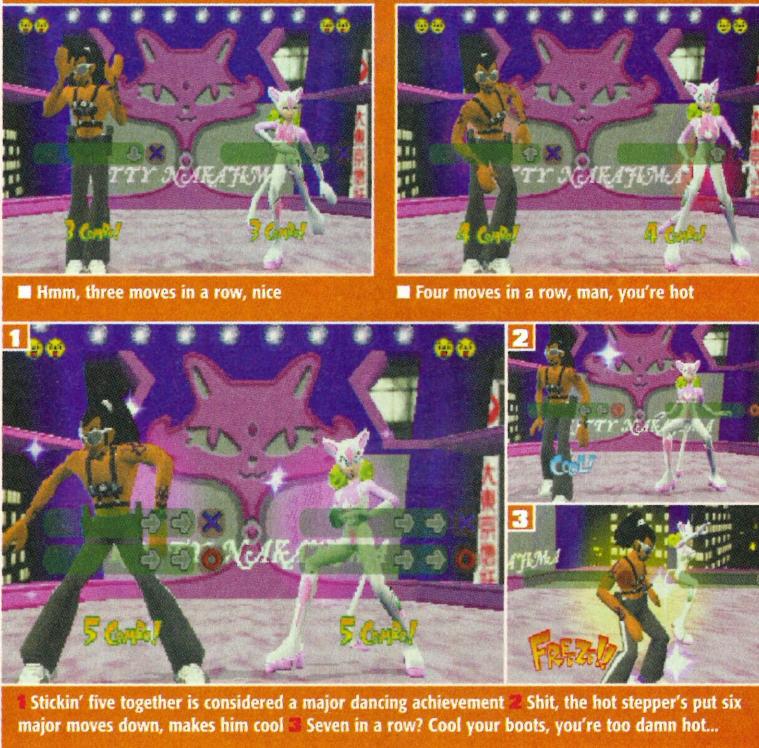
Get down and put together some phat and dangerous... err, dancing combos.

A load of funk lovin' groovers have descended from outer space to do dance battle, all infused with the mysterious power of Dance Energy... oh bollocks. For those about to bop we salute you...

What we like

Freaky dancing

If there's rhythm in your thumbs and you hit the beats in time you get to put together three, four and five-move combos. A mite less complex than yer average beat 'em up but miles more pretty. Get five in a row and you're so chillin' you've got to freeze to allow old two left feet next to you time to catch up.



Sorted

This sorts players with rhythmical talent, a dancing knack and real vibe from the groove incompetents. If you throw down a load of staccato kicks, off-beats, and moves then you become the disco king. Beat all the others and you take on Robo-Z the traffic confusing, four storey-high robot...



You could be dancin'

Down on the dancefloor, and using all the rhythmical skill God gave you, out-groove the opposition. Put moves together to create combos and dodge the opponents blocking moves. The better you move the more the camera loves ya. So, go with the flow...



1 His name's Hamm and he adores hamburgers, can't ya tell? 2 He's Heat 'cos he's, er hot 3 Pinky's a stripper... 4 And Strike's a mean gangsta...

plus

We'd like to say...

The idea's a weird one, but a treat to play with cheesy tunes, bustin' moves and characters with character. It's only let down by a lack of variety. It's like Simon Says without the intrigue, once you master it, you rip through the characters on to the final curtain. But this is still top entertainment.

Ooh, look at you

So who yer gonna be? Strike the gangsta rapper who resides in prison, Hamm the fat burger homeboy boy who hangs out in the burger bar or Kitty the vixen of house? Each character has their own theme tune, venue and moves. So if you're in heavy techno territory bang the keys faster; slow Caribbean groove? Take your time...



1 Kelly: she wears a kind of romper suit. Crazy 2 Gas-O: wears a gas mask. Mad 3 Shorty: she's only 12. Get to bed girl 4 Frida: wears combats, hangs around hurricanes 5 Kitty N: house diva



What we don't like

Let's see that again, please

The downside to Bust-A-Groove is you're so intent on watching what you've got to do next, you don't actually see yourself. So there you are spinning on your head, taking three high-kicks in a row and finishing on a back flip and all you see is which direction arrow you need to press next. Bummer.



■ Here's Pinky, but I'm playing as Strike...

■ Strike vs Strike: but which one are you?

Beat it up

Choose your character and take on twelve other dancers. Instructions are banged up on screen and you punch in the right keys in time to the music. You make up the rhythm providing you hit the last button on the fourth beat of the bar. The more complex your rhythm, the more groovy you are, the hotter you look, the more likely you are to win...



1 Look good on the floor... 2 Camera pans in... 3 And you score

Dirty dancing

The world of ballroom battles isn't a fair one. Start stringing moves together and your groove scale gets hotter. If you see the opposition getting a tad too keen you've got two foils per bout to inflict on them to cut 'em down and wipe 'em out. If you spot the enemy winding up for a foil you can intercept too, to keep on dancin'.



1 Pinky shows you the card and you're off 2 Gas-O drowns you in his noxious gases 3 The sickeningly sweet Kelly gets justly flamed by Heat

Not only is Bust-A-Groove a break from the norm, it's also a load of laughs, dead easy to pick up and you get to disco dance without leaving the house. David

PlayStation

RATED 88%



not actua quick enough.

are you actua quick enough ?



THE UNHOLY WAR

Vicious, bloody, merciless future war. It's fun for all the family!

The Arkanes and the Teknos don't invite each other to parties. They don't go to the same bars. Put 'em in a room together and the temperature drops. Put 'em on a planet together with a sackload of kick-ass weaponry, and jeezus...

Spell it out

While your boys are moseying around on the hexes, trying to square up to each other, they can do other cunning stuff like casting spells and chucking nukes at each other. Not very big nukes, mind. One devious little shit can even teleport around the map so's if you leave your base for a second he's in there making himself at home...



1 Girl on monster. She can heal your blokes after they've been in a scrap 2 Teleporting bloke. Can raise the other fella's blood pressure bigstyle 3 Mr Nuke. Can drop big ones on people near him... 4 Prana Devil. He can spawn others of his own filthy kind



What we like

Summat new, innit?

Blimey, there're all sorts in here. It's the only game ever to make hex-based strategy-type stuff faintly socially acceptable. 'But how can this be?', you gasp. It's cos the hex-based shit is just the hors d'oeuvre: the main course is unfeasibly violent one-on-one combat between various magicky blokes with all sortsa tasty special powers. It rules.



1 Thinking caps on. You've got to move your blokes around and outwit folks 2 Take that thinking cap off. Use the scenery to beat the hell out of the other fella 3 Teleport in behind him, twat him, run away, do it again...

Fighting, thinking

For those of you whose grey matter is only slightly more functional than porridge, there's the 'Mayhem Mode'. And it does exactly what it says on the tin. It's mayhem. Just choose a fighter, slug it out, choose another fighter, slug it out again. For two players, it rocks.



■ Campaign Mode. Mucho thinking required



■ Mayhem Mode. No need to think



■ If you're arsed, fight for the planet's future



■ If not, destroy any twat in your path...

... in the blue corner

So what is it about this game that's got a bunch of urban sophisticates like us messing around with hex-based combat, an activity that's up there with genocide in the social acceptance stakes? Well it's all down to the weapons-grade coolness of the fighters: animals, wizards, rhinos, blokes that fly, teleporting blokes. The full deck. Sweet.



1 Robot slugs people 2 Wasp girl annoys people 3 Razorfang bloke: up close 4 Cute Rhino – Punches 5 Archmage fella. Hurls magic. It hurts

Money, money, money

Y'see, the planet that the Arkanes and the Teknos are having their little spat over is riddled with this stuff called AUR. It's raw energy in highly concentrated form. Kind of like Kendal Mint Cake. If you sit in your base hex, you mine cake. Get 'nuff cake, and you can buy new blokes and cast nasty spells. Lose your base, no more cake...



■ Hold that base: the only way to get moolah



■ When you've got money, buy new blokes...

plus

We'd like to say...

Games where you move on a hexagonal grid give us migraines. They're usually hyper-accurate depictions of World War II battles, played solely by men with beards who wear sweaters and haven't had sex for 20 years. Bad shit. But here, the bit where you move yer men between hexes is the sizzle not the steak. Down and dirty man-to-man, that's where it's at in this 'un. And we like it like dat.

Mix this pussy

Thing is, most of the characters only have a couple of attacks up their sleeves. But before you think 'I'll get me coat', there's enough of 'em for that not to make any difference. And throw in the huge number of arenas you get to fight in, each with their own nice and nasty bits of scenery and we've got a right mix of stuff to play about with.



1 Ooh, those nasty Arkanes. It makes me mad 2 Fight! Fight! Errrr... I'll hold your jacket, big man...

3 My what big teeth you have, Grandma 4 The Prana Devil was always a big hit at parties with his endless japes 5 Line 'em up. Knock 'em down. Do it again...

Plenty of fighting. Plenty of thinking. This one's an original idea that works pretty durn well. It's got looks, it's got charm. It goes like a bunny. What you waiting for? Rob

PlayStation
plus
RATED 89%

■ OUT OCTOBER ■ BY ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

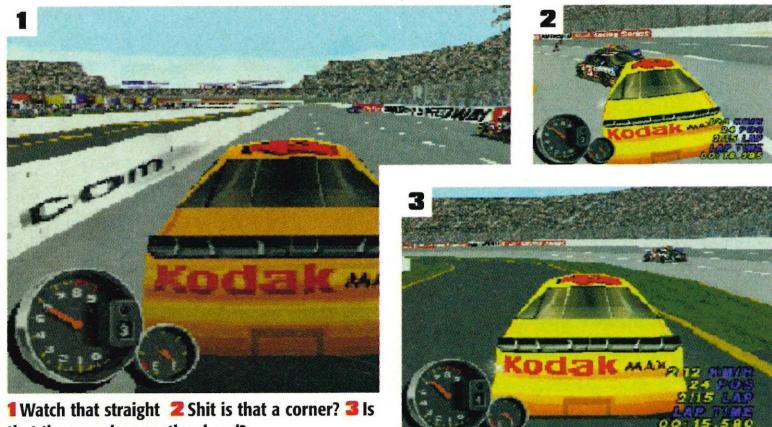
NASCAR 99

Beware, cack comes in many guises. And what goes around goes 'round and 'round...

The previous two Nascar games didn't exactly set the world alight. Dull was one way of putting it. Could Nascar 99 break the mould and haul back the reputation of American track racing? The answer unfortunately is a resounding no.

Oval you say

Can you imagine the unbridled pleasure of speeding around a track shaped like an oval? It's difficult to contain the excitement and expectation isn't it? Now imagine 18 different tracks and all but three of them are ovals. It hurts so bad just to know this is allowed to happen in real life let alone on your precious 'Station. To be honest this is so boring we had to inject adrenalin into our eyeballs just to keep us this side of a coma.



1 Watch that straight 2 Shit is that a corner? 3 Is that the crowd or another bend?

What we don't like

You complete yanker

Apart from the ovals, what really grates is the crappy American commentators, urging you on to even greater heights of ovaltastic mayhem. Crazy Yanks. Graphics, don't they just make a game? Shame that, 'cos we're shit outta luck on that front. Gameplay. Now if you ain't got that you ain't got nothing. Oh dear, tad lacking there too, although to be fair gameplay's probably its biggest strength, but then again, that's not saying too much.



1 Tweak that car to take on the crazy course curves... 2 To make it better 3 Why do we bother?

If you tolerate this your children will be next. If you really want to be bored and look at an oval, why not go and watch a cricket match instead? More interesting. Rich

PlayStation
plus
RATED 50%

SPYRO THE DRAGON

'What big eyes you have, Spyro.' 'All the better to nauseate you with, my dear.'

If you want your mates to think of you as a roughneck whisky-swillin', cigarette-smokin', badass sumbitch, start cussing Spyro the Dragon now. This is the alpha and omega of girls' games. Brace yourselves for cutesy overload...

What we like

Suck on this!

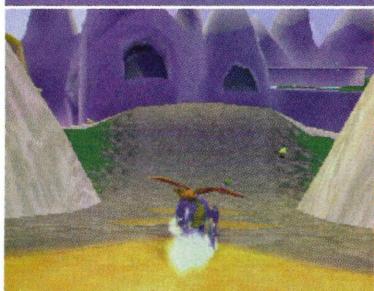
One of the three games available for Nintendo's excellent N64 console features a fat plumber who explores big 3D levels and goes down holes in the ground. Owners of this fine console have often said that the PlayStation couldn't come up with a full 3D exploration that looked as damn fine as their plumber's antics. Wrong! Watch 'n' weep!



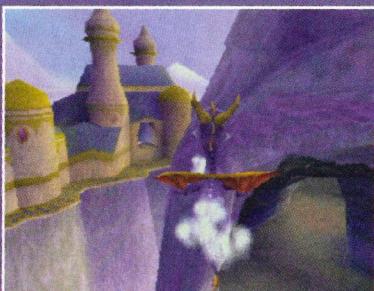
■ Plenty o' exploration for our nauseating little reptile chum...



■ And he's even got the eyes the size of dinner plates that ol' Mario boasts



■ See! Exploration! Can you get to that thing way off in the distance?



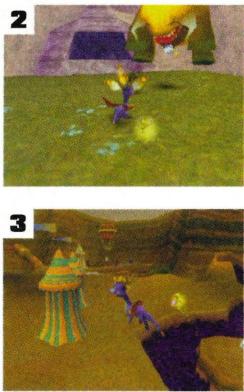
■ But of course you can. Loadsa gems! Was it good for you too?

My mate Ralph

The far-from-sinister Gnorc the Gnasty is trying to destroy the revoltingly cute kingdom of the dragons. Now, having had a gander at Spyro's chums, we're right with Gnorc on this one. But as it is, we're supposed to side with the most sick-making dragon of all.



1 Ugghhhh. Make those eyes a teeny bit smaller. Please 2 That Gnorc. He's got the right idea, y'know 3 Your dragon chums are just as repellent as you are, little Spyro



1 Head down the speed-up bit to do a super jump... 2 Get it right, and you can get into new secret bits... 3 And li'l Spyro can even fly. Innee cute? 4 More secret stuff. Damn your scaly hide, Spyro. Damn your cute little ass...

Objects!

You won't need to be Brain of Britain to get your head round the gameplay on this 'un. In fact, even having a brain is probably optional. Toast or headbutt everything that moves. Pick up everything that don't. Pick up lots of things, and you get extra lives, access to new worlds, shit like that. You get the idea...

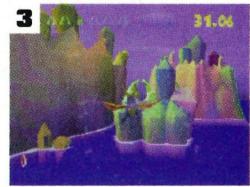
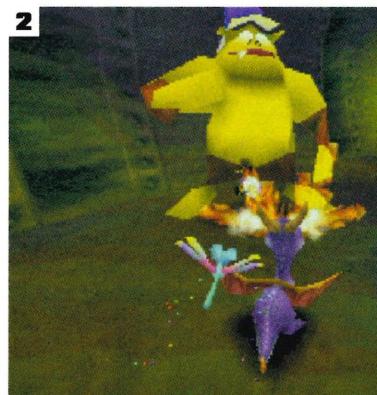


1 Gems. You'll be seeing a lot of these fellas 2 Dragon eggs. Collect plenty o' eggs to get to the fourth world 3 More gems. You need thousands of the bastids to get ahead 4 Your main goal is to free dragon chums from their icy prisons 5 And when you do it, they give you all sorts of advice. What lovely dragons



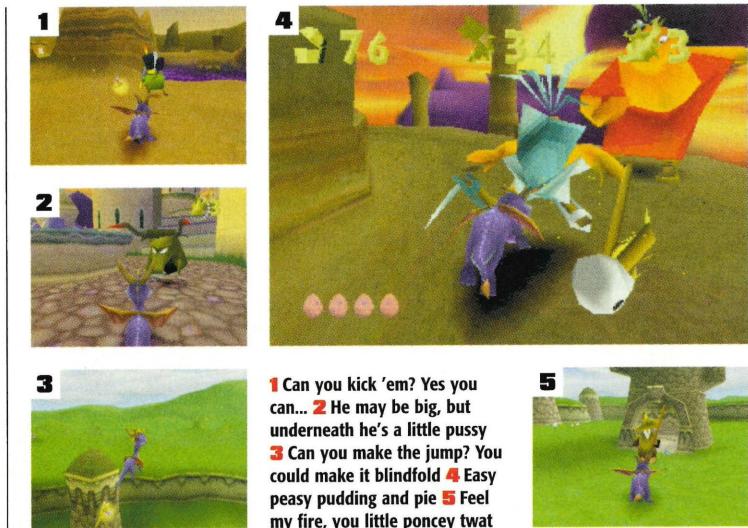
Shit! Stop it!

Like all true blokes, we have a manly terror of anything that could vaguely be described as 'girly'. So we've tried to resist Spyro. Honest we have. But it keeps coming back at us with little clever secret bits and new nifty ways through the levels. 'Begone, tempter!' we cry. And then we sneak back for another go. Just one, mind...



Shenanigans

Just take a look at your average child. Look at the trouble it has just walking about or getting food in its mouth without spilling drool-ritten chunks down its front. Now this game's aimed squarely at the kids, and it kinda shows: they've let the little twats have it just a liiittle bit easy. If you're half-way decent, you'll romp through. We warn you.



plus

We'd like to say...

Children get all the fun: Spyro, breastfeeding, Lego. It's time for us to reclaim these joys. But we'll do our reclaiming where our mates can't see. The time when Spyro is acceptable entertainment's a long time off yet.

We're off to see the wizard

Headbutt. Flash fry. Those're your two basic attacks, and you'll be doing a whole lot of 'em. But credit to the boys: they've made a real effort with the baddies so there's plenty variety in the way you take 'em down. Master your flying headbutts, your headbutt-fry combos and other Zen Spyro-ing skills. You'll need 'em...



So cute it's vile. But underneath that sugary schmaltz coating, this is a clever little platformer that plays like a beast. Just don't let yer mates catch you at it. Rob

PlayStation

RATED 88%

■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY SONY ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-2
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

NFL EXTREME

They have the nerve to call it football. Twats. It's rugby in helmets and tights...

American Football never caught on here. No surprise really, 'cos it's too damned complicated and a sixty minute game usually lasts four hours because there's so much stoppage time. But still we get bombarded with 'em. No fair...

Loadsa jargon

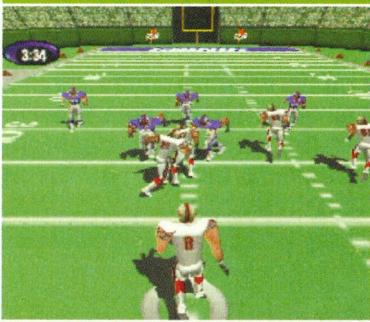
Wos it all abaat? God only knows. The basic idea is to get the ball to your opponent's end zone. Do it and you get a touchdown. You can do this by either running or passing the ball, choosing a play from a list of hundreds. And while this sounds like a walk in the park, it's actually dead tedious. True, you get to coach and play in the team, but there just ain't enough hands-on action to get your pulse pumping.



What we don't like

Computer control

The control system is an awkward mutha to get on with. It takes a while to work out which plays throw or run the ball, and is made even more confusing by the wide players diving all over the shop. You can give in and let the computer choose the plays, but then what's the point of playing at all?



■ Blink and you'll miss it



■ Oh there goes another

plus

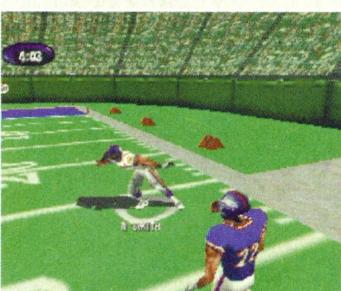
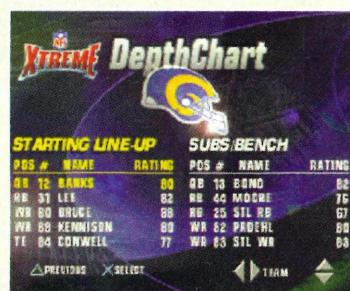
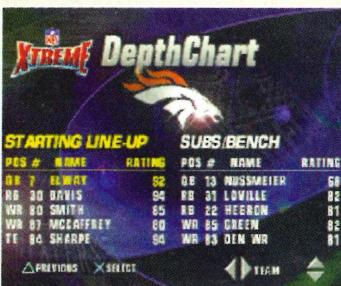
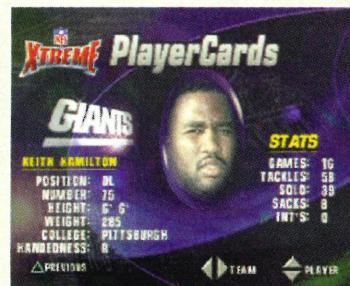
We'd like to say...

If you're not a massive Yank football fan you'll hate this game. Even more than the real thing.

Y'see, games should be exciting and give the player full control. When you're left to sit back and watch the show it gets pretty boring, especially when the action sequences last little more than few seconds. Yawn.

Full of it

Like reading game manuals? Then you'll love this. It goes into every tiny detail about the blokes in the teams, plus every fact, stat and story about the players from the current league. The only thing it lacks is genital measurements, but then there's enough helmets in the game already without introducing bell-ends to the fray.



1 Looks a bit hard 2 Do we need to know this? 3 It has to mean something 4 Cheeky bugger

This is far too clever for its own good. Games should involve the player right from the start, not leave them staring at stat screens. Accountants'll love it, though. Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 71%

■ OUT NOVEMBER ■ BY GT INTERACTIVE ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, LINK CABLE

ROGUE TRIP

Death! Destruction! Rage! Fat tourists and killer poodles... Sounds scary.

It's a post-apocalyptic hell all right. Society's gone to pot and we're left with loons in souped-up deathwagons with only two things on their minds: killing tourists, and having their piccy taken. Now this is going to be violently funny...

What we like

Taking the piss

Although this game's about as sophisticated as roadworks it does have a sense of humour about it which can't be bad. It takes great pleasure in taking the piss when you mess up. A game that fights back? This we like.



■ They really rub it in



■ But revenge can be yours

A thousand ways to die – choose one

Lesson number one is don't stay still. Put your foot down and get toolled-up. There're loads of types of weapons, all waiting for you to get medieval. And don't hold back because the twisted sons of bitches you're up against really don't like you, and they aren't shy in coming forward.



1 That'll be a new bumper then 2 Death really, really hurts 3 Even the cows get it

Fifty points for a tourist

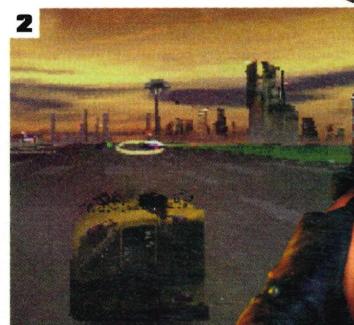
Let's face it, those slow-moving, tartan-trousered Yank tourists have been asking for it, waddling around going, 'Gee ain't it swell?' The answer in this game is, 'You're not if plastered over my bonnet, lard arse! Kill or kidnap 'em, collect cash and get your picture taken. It really would be so simple... Apart from the small matter of staying alive yourself.



1 Go for the jugular 2 This plane ain't going anywhere 3 Mind you, don't hit one of those UFOs

Choose your weapon

Each vehicle has its special weapon, from giant killer hoola hoops, to packs of frenzied poodles. Why? Because variety's the spice of extinguishing life. Drive around to discover the very latest in life-shortening hardware.



1 Killer hoola hoops – very tasty 2 And the missile-guided boomerangs are sure gonna do the biz...



■ Heavenly body

Gameplay

This one's got gameplay that's so easy even a corpse could master it. All you have to do is point and shoot. It's also well easy to change between your weapons, making creative, imaginative carnage a real possibility. Bonza.



■ Bridges are for wusses



■ Keep pumpin'

plus

We'd like to say...

This baby ain't gonna win any awards in the originality stakes. It drives like a bastid down a well-worn motorway of cars and death. But don't hold that against it. Rogue Trip gives us an extra portion of pyrotechnic destruction and the ability to wipe out nauseating tourists. Which, let's face it, is no bad thing...

Sunday driver

There's a nice slice of variety as far as the levels go, ranging from the White House mall to Area 51, which comes armed with flying saucers, and no doubt the authorities would still deny actually exists. So there are no lack of places to go to rain death and terror down on poor unfortunate pedestrians.



■ This is the way of damnation, stay away



■ Hard to believe these were once prime apartments, now look at them



■ What a stupid place to put a graveyard, still if it's in the way, toast it
■ Blow the hill, blow everything ■ You gotta do it to them before they do it to you – it's the law of the urban jungle...

Death, driving and exterminating the odd tourist – a brilliant recipe. But this one has been overcooked. We demand more innovation, OK? Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 76%

BIOFREAKS

Well, what do ya know? Apparently post-apocalyptic America is full of half-mutant, half-mechanical freaks – and they're all gagging for a fight.

Freaks eh? If they're not in the circus, making dodgy porn flicks or appearing on Kilroy, you can bet your ass they're in their own videogame. And look, here they are in Biofreaks: a beat 'em up positively stuffed with the ugly bastards.

Gameplay

It ain't brain surgery. Choose a freak then beat the crap out of your opponent. Rip his arm off and slap him with the wet end. There are shitloads of moves in there, including nifty projectiles and special attacks, in addition to some fantastic aerial battles. The one-player game is a bit naff 'cos the computer's no great shakes. But hey, it's a beat 'em up, it's meant to be played with a mate.

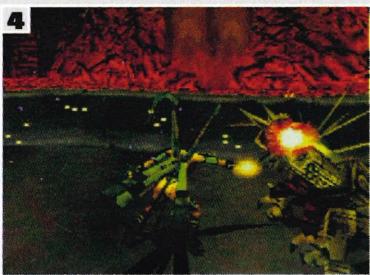
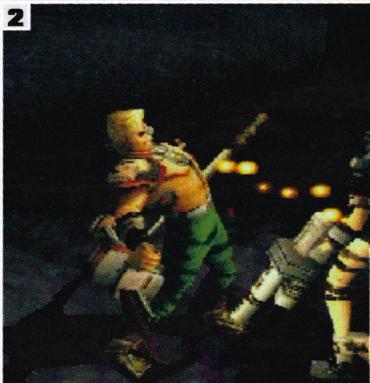


1 Rip the other geezer's arms off. Then laugh and watch as the blood spews out 2 This is some kind of a shield presumably 3 Ouch! Now that looks well painful. Do it to him before he does it to you...



You belong in a circus mate

It's a game about fighting freaks. But these aren't your ordinary just-escaped-from-the-circus, in-bred, half-brothers-with-hideously-deformed-mutant-flipper-hands kinda freaks. These are bio-mechanical freaks, with their puny human limbs replaced by ultra-powerful weapons of destruction. And there isn't a bearded lady or rat boy in sight.



1 Dance you mutant mutha 2 Energy sapping action 3 I'm gonna rip yer bleedin' guts out! 4 Keep away from this woman 5 Those bastard buzz saws'll hack you to pieces

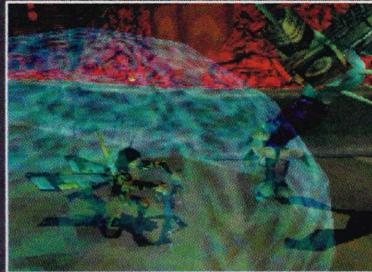
What we like

Blood 'n' guts

As if all this talk of freakin' freaks ain't enough to put you off your dinner, Biofreaks is chock-full of blood 'n' guts. Manage to pull off one of the cool special moves and you can tear the other poor freak's arm clean out of its bleeding – literally – socket. Or use your thrusters to leap high into the air and barbecue the mutant bastid with your handy flamethrowers.



■ Hey man, your breath stinks



■ Cool explosions



■ You don't want one of them up yer ass



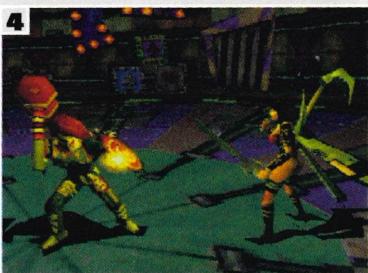
■ Don't piss this guy off

Fightin' arenas

Playing Biofreaks, it's not just the freakish opponents that get tougher, but the fighting arenas too. Some have lava flowing around them which sap your energy if you get chucked in, others have huge mechanical rollers to crush you if you get too close to them. So you have to use the dodge button to move out of harm's way then twat your opponent from behind.



1 You don't wanna get caught in the rollers 2 Yer gonna need flame-retardant underwear 3 It's just like Star Wars 4 Watch out for his huge mallet



Graphics

A bit like Geri Spice. Rough around the edges, but after five pints who gives a shit? The camera angles are a tad unhelpful at times and some of the arenas are a bit tatty. But the fighters and special effects are top-notch, so you'll be able to show Biofreaks off to yer mates without fear of getting laughed at. Which is probably the most important thing.



1 The special effects are pretty decent 2 Cool smoke effects 3 Careful of the green ooze 'round the edge 4 Looks smart, doesn't it? 5 You don't wanna mess with this guy's missus



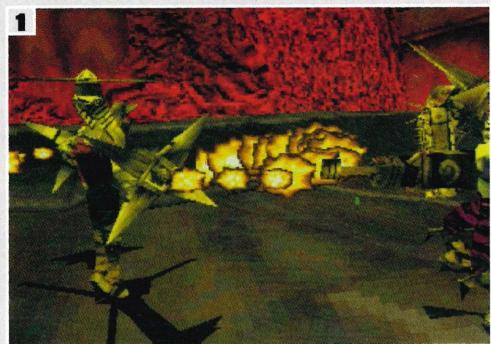
plus

We'd like to say...

So it's another beat 'em up? Well, no. Biofreaks is a refreshing break from the old routine. There are plenty of weapons, loads of gore and some cool special moves in there. It could have done with a bit more spit and polish on the graphics, but it's still a top effort.

Controls

Most players should be able to get to grips with Biofreaks fairly quickly, because the basic controls have been kept nice and simple. In addition to your standard left and right punch and kick buttons, you've got dodge buttons to side-step opponents' attacks, a booster button for aerial combat, a fire button for weapons and also limited use of a shield. It's a piece o' piss really.



1 Watch out for this geezer's massive flamethrower 2 Another energy-sapping combination attack 3 Er... ya don't wanna fall for that one

This one's violent, gory and bloody good fun. It ain't gonna cause Tekken 3 to lose much sleep, but it's definitely a fighting contender for the best of the rest. Lee

PlayStation
plus
RATED 85%

■ OUT DECEMBER ■ BY ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ COSTS £39.99 ■ PLAYERS 1-4
■ COMPATIBILITIES JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

NHL 99

An ice hockey game that ain't total wank? Pull the other one...

Winter's a-coming. That means Uncle Sam is eyeing up spaces on game shop shelves, looking to fill 'em with millions of his identical ice hockey games. Curse that mustachioed Yank! Here comes his first shot...

Kinda fun

We hate Americans. We hate their food. We hate their music. That's why it hurts to admit this is actually a real laugh. It's way easy to pick up and play, it's fast as you like, and it's nice 'n' easy to slot 'em in the net. Playability central. Curses.



1 Twat! Bok! Clatter! The puck's way too big, but it slip-slides with the best 2 Movement's realistic and passing's smooth 3 And shooting's easy as pie 4 ...Until you put it on harder difficulty levels

What we like

Put 'em up! G'wan! Put 'em up!

'Excuse me, sir. I just wanted to lodge a polite but firm complaint about your bodychecking technique.' Translated into ice hockey player terms, this comes out as: Fist in the chops! Hockey stick in the genitals! Makes sense. Fights are big on the menu here: you get to do the punching and hitting of your opponents, and there's even commentary on 'em...



1 'Oi! Bastard!' Now you've got his attention... 2 Clock 'im one beat 'em up style! 3 Want some more, you scared-assed punk? Come get some!

OK, so it's another ice hockey game. But it plays smooth and sleek, it looks the business, and the commentary is top-notch. Go on. Have a go. You'll like it. Rob

PlayStation
plus
RATED 86%

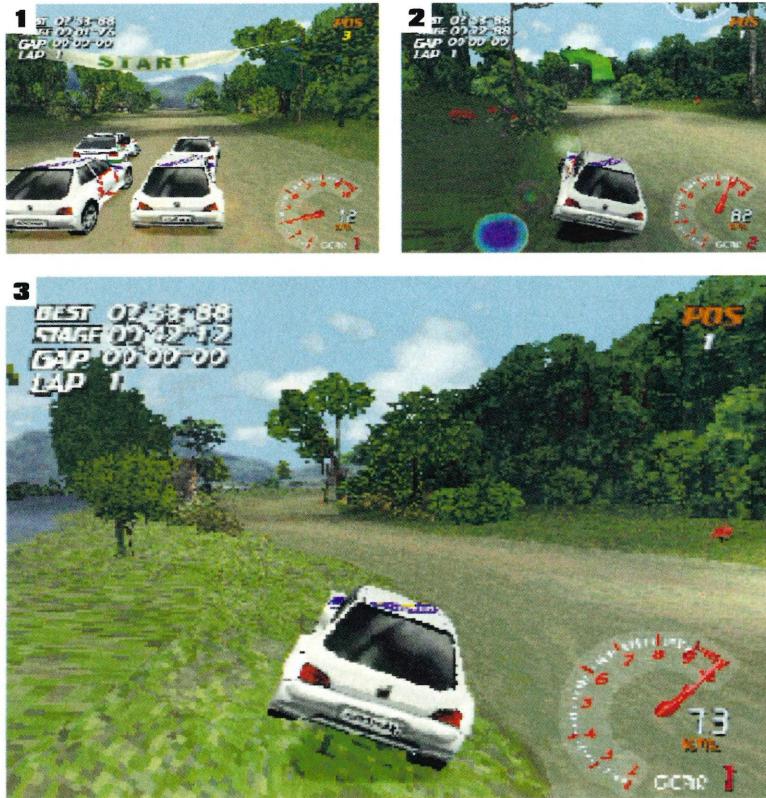
V-RALLY

One year on and it'll still make you wet yer pants...

This one broke the mould a year back. Now it's 'rally' cheap and sitting on a shelf calling out your name. Is there any way you can you resist it? Better find out...

Back in the days when

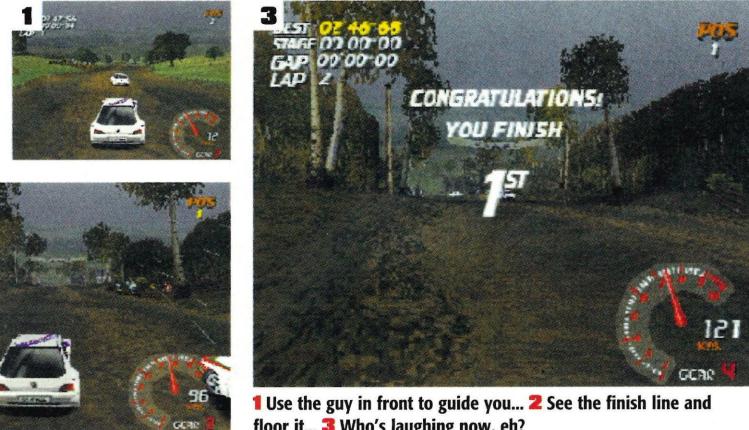
At the time of its release this caused quite a stir. Think thermonuclear, then add a dash of napalm and you're getting close. See, it was a scary beast, fast as lightning, with a monster amount of courses, and a control system that needed — no, demanded — total respect. And concentration. It was Madam Whiplash, and yeah we were her little lapdog.



1 There's always going to be someone stuck in neutral 2 Two-wheel cornering is not recommended for stability 3 The inside lanes are the best... well, most of the time

Any good still?

Does it still excite? Well I've only just got my heart rate back to normal, and I put down the joypad an hour ago. There may be better on offer now, but this is far from cack. It's still best to wear an extra set of trolleys, and there's no higher recommendation than that.

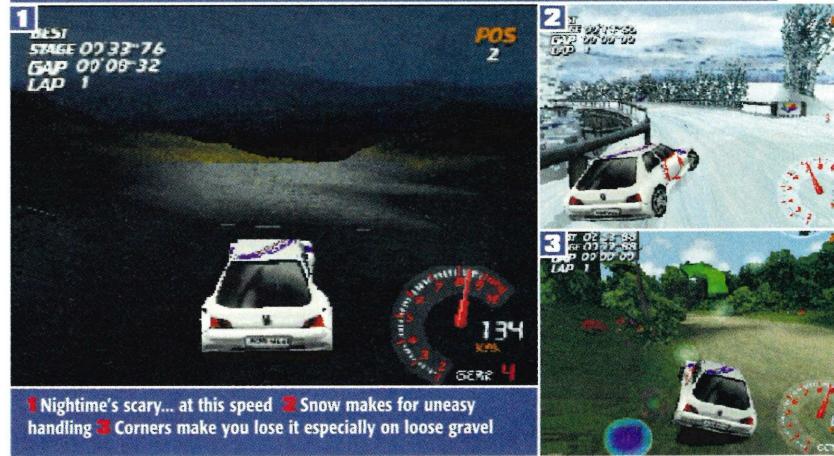


1 Use the guy in front to guide you... 2 See the finish line and floor it... 3 Who's laughing now, eh?

What we like

Let's lay down some tracks

It has some pretty awesome features, such as 42 different tracks, plus loads of different cars and different types of surfaces and weather conditions. As a bonus the platinum edition comes with a new car: the Corolla WRC. Anoraks will not be disappointed, and the rest of us will be right made up.



1 Nightime's scary... at this speed 2 Snow makes for uneasy handling 3 Corners make you lose it especially on loose gravel

plus

We'd like to say...
Fair enough there is one rally which may now be considered better, but even Colin McRae himself wouldn't have the front to diss this game. It's still got the right ingredients to make it well worth a spin.

Fast as you like

One really cool aspect of this game is the sense of speed you get when you're cruising along: the road's just a blur, and your cheeks are somewhere round your ears. As racing games go it's a speed-freaks fantasy.



■ This isn't legal you know



■ Who cares, this is pure sport

winner For a mix of stunning gameplay, detail and sheer excitement, not much comes close, and at a cool 20 nicker you'd be a fool not to indulge. Rich

PlayStation
plus

RATED 91%

GRAND THEFT AUTO

Steal cars! Kill policemen! Deal hard drugs! That is entertainment...

If you've read the tabloids, you'll know this game will steadily corrode your morals, turning you into a deranged, murdering psychopath who eats cop liver pâté on toast for lunch. And now it's only twenty quid!

What we like

Oil. Ugly!

Looking at ugly things makes you ill. This is a self-evident truth. But we still like GTA, even though it's a bit of a pig. How can this be? It's because there's big bundles of stuff to be doing, fat bags of atmos, and there're touches that're just classy royale, like how the music changes depending on which motor you nab...



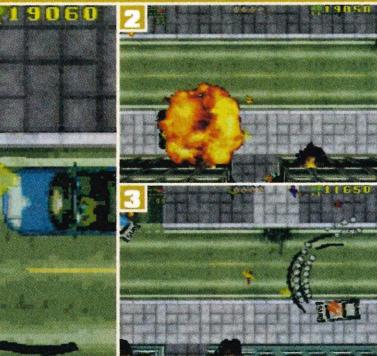
■ Step in a pick-up and the music goes all Country and Western...



■ One of Uncle Fu's boys is on the phone. Wanna try telling him to hold?



1 Jump in a cop car and you even get to turn on the flashing lights... 2 And pick up a Kill Frenzy for extra points. And lots of lovely killing 3 Woah! Road block! Time to take evasive action!

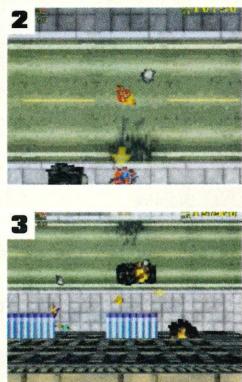


Blimey! It's the rozzers!

If you bust caps into pedestrians and steal people's cars, the pigs will eventually down their doughnuts and set off in pursuit. Then the trouble starts. It starts double bad if you ice a copper. When the heat is on, find a garage, get a respray and new plates. Game on again...

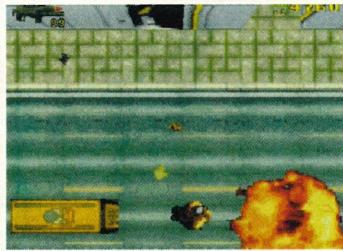


1 OK. I'm sorry I killed your buddy. But really. This's all a bit excessive 2 You'll never take me alive, pig! 'Suits me fine, scumbag' 3 Doh! Where to go? Where to go? Them boys in blue gotcha fenced in...



Missions

Steal cars, drill policemen through the torso, dole out heroin to school kids. Fun, fun, fun. But GTA ain't just you larking about. Blokes called stuff like Jimmy 'Tropical Fruit Cocktail' Garciano and Louie 'Chess Piece' Cinzano are phoning you on the mobile and telling you to head places and do stuff. And Messrs Garciano and Cinzano ain't patient guys...



■ I need yer to do me a mission. So, listen up, and make it down there fast, y'unnerstan'?



■ OK! OK! So I head north, crack out the major weaponry... and then what?



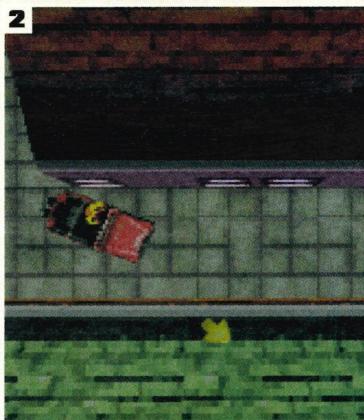
■ Now another major drive down to the Southside...



■ And blast some unlucky bastid in the head. Don't mess with Joe 'Two Lumps' again...

Car wars

The smart criminal about town needs a decent motor like he needs a gold chain and a command of phrases like 'owight geeza'. But don't think about that nought per cent finance plan down at Stan's Motors: you got to nick those wheels. Run up to the car, drag the driver out and you're laughing. Choose well, my son...



1 Sporty effort, useful for getaways and shit – bastard to control 2 Pick-up truck. It'll do at a pinch 3 Bus. Nobody gets in your way. 4 Bomb truck. Park next to nearest children's home. Stand well back



We'll not waste your time pretending GTA doesn't look shit. It's pig-ugly. But there's a total blast of a game in there: absorbing, off-the-wall, bleedin' fast. And naughty. Rob

PlayStation

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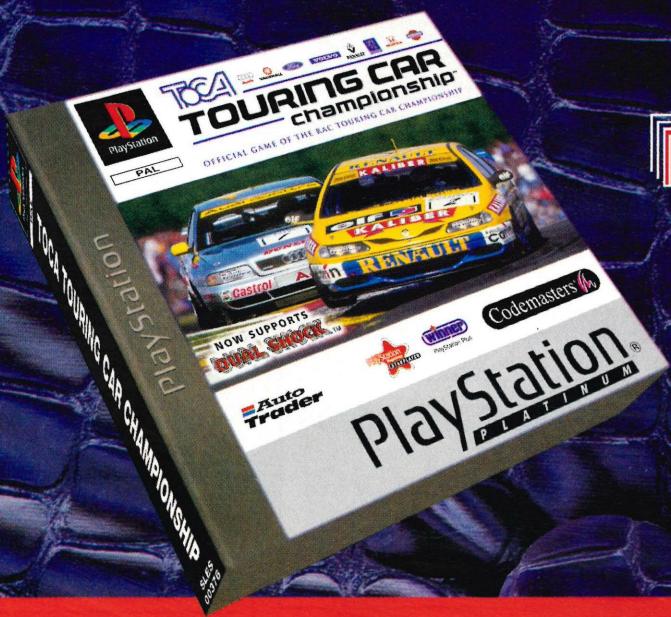


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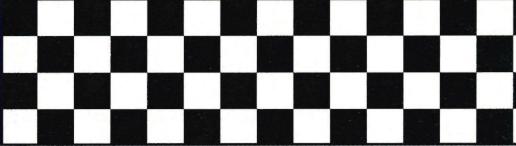
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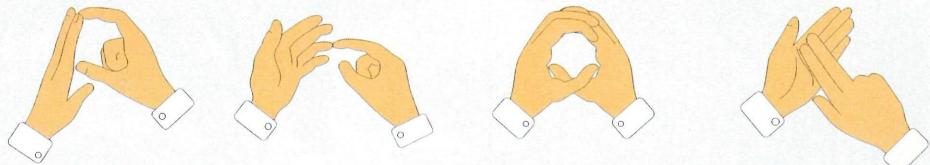
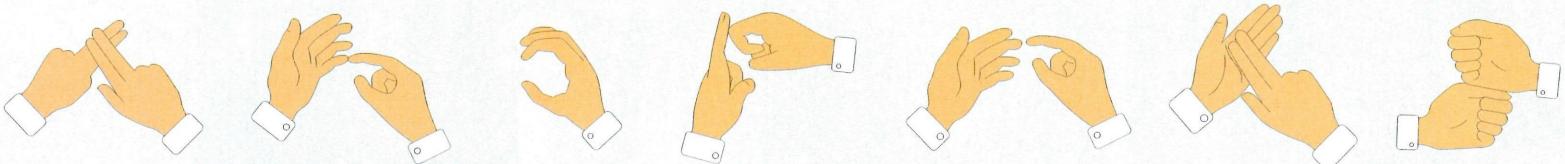
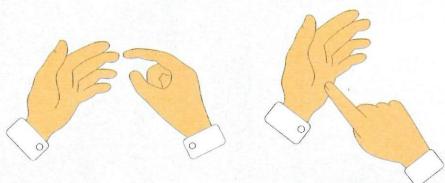
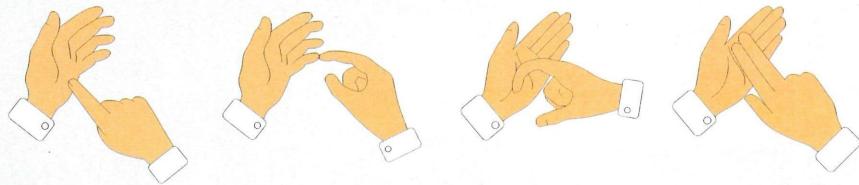


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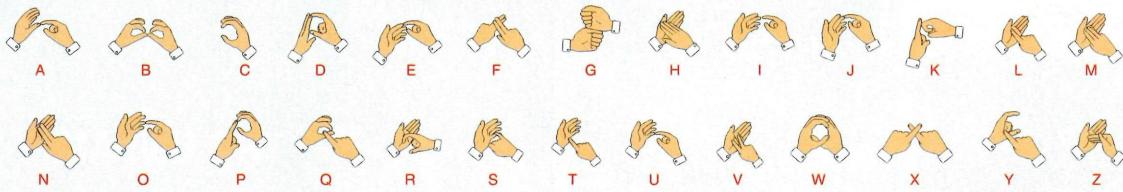
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The big-chested babe bares her booty again. And, yeah, we DO like to watch...



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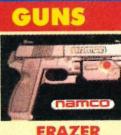
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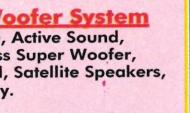
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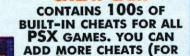
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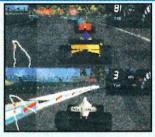
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Psygnosis return with another hi-octane Grand Prix experience. All new stats for the new season bring the realism up to date, while a brand new game engine allows for brilliant graphics and a 4 player link-up mode!



FELONY 11-79	VIGILANTE 8	MICRO MACHINES 3
AUTO DESTRUCT	84% PY, 77% PP	£22.99
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HOW WE RATE STUFF

- 0-50% **Total toss**
- 51-60% **Just toss**
- 61-70% **Only okay**
- 71-80% **Good, not great**
- 81-90% **Almost classic**
- 91-100% **Essential play**



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RC **TC**

p107 Jargonbuster

Rental chart

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Crap American

Sweet names

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rich and famous

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Rental Chart

BLOCKBUSTER

Wanna try before you buy?
The hottest rentals this month

Key: (NE) New Entry
(RE) Re-Entry
(4) Position Last Month
(-) Same Position

- (NE) Tekken 3 (Sony)**
Beating 'em straight to the top.
- (NE) TOCA Touring Car (Platinum)**
Top rally game now on the cheap.
- (1) Colin McRae Rally (Codemasters)**
Our Colin drops two chart places.
- (-) Grand Theft Auto (Platinum)**
Even more of a steal on budget.
- (5) Tekken 2 (Platinum)**
Still strong as big brother hits the top.
- (2) Premier Manager 98 (Gremlin)**
Manager sim drops down the table.
- (6) Gran Turismo (Sony)**
Still the best racer for your cash.
- (7) Point Blank Bundle Pack (Sony)**
Brilliant shooter — with gun.
- (9) Resident Evil 2 (Virgin)**
More zombie-bashing fun.
- (8) Tomb Raider (Platinum)**
Lara's first outing's hanging in there.

2Xtreme

£44.99

■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Really poor sequel to Extreme Games. Very few improvements.

55%

3D Lemmings

£44.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✓ Multitap✗
Smart 3D graphics, but uninteresting and awkward gameplay.

81%

4-4-2

£34.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
An absolute disgrace of a football game. The worst on the PlayStation.

14%

Abe's Oddysee

£44.99

■ Company GT Interactive ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Great-looking and great-playing weirdo adventure.

91%

Actua Golf

£44.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Cyber-golf at its most realistic. The best golf game on the PlayStation.

88%

Actua Ice Hockey

£39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✗ Link-up✗ Mouse✓ Multitap✓
Looks sweet, plays juicy. Well tasty pick up n' play ice hockey effort.

91%

Actua Tennis

£39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Same as Actua Soccer, but has Premier teams. Too little too late...

60%

Adidas Power Soccer

£19.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓
Football game which favours cool graphics over yer actual gameplay.

60%

Adidas Power soccer 98

£34.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Crappy old footy game doesn't cut the mustard.

55%

Adidas Soccer International 97

£44.95

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓
A follow-up to Adidas Power Soccer, also pretty shite.

70%

Agent Armstrong

£39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Mindless blasting, easy puzzles and daft graphics... Okay, but that's all.

75%

Agile Warrior

£39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
Fairly challenging arcade-style aircraft shoot 'em up. Neat, but no cigar...

85%

Air Combat

£19.99

■ Company Namco ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗
A miss from Namco? Yeah: tedious, lacks depth and variety.

65%

Jargonbuster!

How our listings work

Company: Who sells it? **Players:** How many can play? **Memory**

Card: Can you use one to save games? **Link-up:** Can two players

play on two machines? **Mouse:** Do you need one? **Multitap:**

Allows lots of players to play **Special:** Guns or special controllers?

The Knowledge: updated every month

Campaign against Crap American Sweet Names

An enemy of the cause...

The campaign offices have received this letter...

The BASS Campaign (British are Shitty and Smelly)
I'm an American. An American who has started my own campaign to rival yours. My job is to protect us Americans, and my campaign is based in London. Don't attempt to write to my base, as you can only contact me through your magazine.
In your campaign you talk about the way we change the names of sweet brands. Well, it's for

better, I say. Opal Fruits was a crappy name anyway. You also talk about how we call chips French fries. Personally I think our name for chips adds a bit more style to bits of potato.

'Other crappy British names are Toad in the Hole and Bangers and Mash — what shitty names. I hope you will contact me through your magazine. This is the leader of the BASS Campaign over and out'

Sure we will contact you through the magazine, BASS; piss off back to America. And take your anorexic French fries with you.

CACA members, should you come across the headquarters of this campaign, you have got our permission to chuck a firebomb through the Tommy Tinder, burn the gaff, and beat those jam rolls at their own game.

This is CACA HQ, over and out.



Ace Combat 2 £34.99

■ Company Namco ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad, NegCon
Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Fighter pilot extravaganza. Buy planes, and shoot everything!

85%

Air Race £44.99

■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Racing takes to the skies. Easy to pick up and fun to play.

Rent it
76%

AIV Evolution Global £44.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Good fun, pretty enjoyable, but overwhelming resource management sim.

85%

Alien Trilogy £19.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Excellent Doom clone which captures all the scares of the films.

Platinum
85%

All Star Soccer £44.95

■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-4

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Tries to mix footie and humour. Doesn't make much of a job of it either...

34%

Alone In The Dark £39.95

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Interesting puzzles fail to make up for the game's dated presentation.

82%

Alundra £39.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Excellent RPG that's easy to play but hard to put down.

Rent it
91%

Andretti Racing £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

A light alternative to the fantastic Formula 1.

85%

Aquanaut's Holiday £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Environmentally friendly underwater adventure. Very dull.

53%

Area 51 £44.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Light Gun

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

A bland shoot 'em up based on an arcade game.

52%

Ark of Time £39.99

■ Company ICE ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Dull puzzler game: too boring and too hard.

65%

Armoured Core £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

Robotic shoot 'em up. Worth a look.

86%

Assault £39.99

■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual shock pad

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

No-stop killing in fast and frantic shoot 'em up.

88%

Assault Rigs £44.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

A nice idea, but just too simple and too easy for its own good.

81%

Blast Chamber

£44.99

■ Company Activision ■ Players 1-4

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

54%

Blasto

£39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

56%

Blast Radius

£44.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

83%

Blam! Machinehead

£44.99

■ Company Core Design ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

89%

Blazing Dragons

£44.99

■ Company BMG ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

87%

Bloody Roar

£39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

92%

Bomberman World

£34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-4

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

83%

Break Point

£44.99

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-4

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

73%

Brahma Force

£44.95

■ Company JVC ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

73%

Breath of Fire III

£39.99

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

84%

Broken Helix

£39.99

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

70%

Broken Sword

£44.99

■ Company SCE ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

91%

Burnt Blazer Champions

£44.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

87%

Battle Arena Toshinden 2

£49.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

71%

Battle Stations

£44.95

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

52%

Batman Forever

£44.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

28%

Batman and Robin

£39.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

73%

Beast Wars: Transformers

£39.99

■ Company Hasbro ■ Players 1

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

45%

Bedlam

£44.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

87%

Big Hurt Baseball

£44.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

81%

Black Dawn

£44.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

88%

Burning Road

£44.99

■ Company Funsoft ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

88%

Bubble Bobble Pack

£44.95

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

84%

Bubsy 3D

£34.99

■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-2

Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

30%

Buggy

£39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock Pad

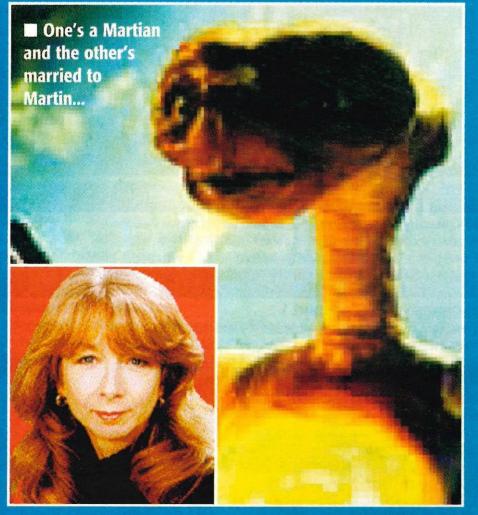
Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✓

78%

Bug Riders	£39.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Ugly, unplayable insect-riding racer. A load of cock.	34%
Bushido Blade	£39.99
■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Samurai swordfighting game that's too realistic to pump up your pulse.	83%
Bust-a-Move 2	£19.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X One of the cutest, most incredibly addictive puzzle games of all time.	89%
Bust-a-Move 3	£34.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Bubble-bustin' puzzler that's too damn similar to the last Bust-a-Move.	85%
Carnage Heart	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Surprisingly good beat 'em up with swords.	82%
Casper	£44.95
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Graphics are fine and dandy, but the gameplay's totally average.	62%
Castlevania	£44.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Old school 2D action and gameplay galore in this Dracula spectacular.	89%
Cheesy the Mouse	£44.95
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X The awful main sprite hides some good platform action.	82%
Chessmaster 3D	£44.95
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Rough, tough butt-kicking (only joking) chess sim.	87%
Chill	£39.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Loads to do and cool two-player in another snowboarding clone.	82%
Circuit Breakers	£39.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Mini-racing effort that's a bit too much like Micro Machines.	80%
City of the Lost Children	£44.95
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Excellent graphics in this adventure game, but incredibly annoying.	68%
Clock Tower	£44.99
■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Poor attempt to move into Resident Evil territory. Boring, dated, not scary.	43%

Lookylikeys

Here are the great and good that were cruelly separated at birth. Truly we bring people together. This month: Gail Tilsley off Coronation Street and E.T....



Colin McRae Rally	£44.99
■ Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual shock Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Superb rally game. Possibly better than sex.	95%
Colony Wars	£44.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Space-based 3D blaster which is sharp as a tack. Loads to do, too.	93%
Command and Conquer	£19.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X It's war, and you're the daddy of destruction. A point and click bloodbath.	90%
Command and Conquer: Red Alert	£39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Strategic slaughter 'em up that's even better than the first C&C.	93%
Command and Conquer: Retaliation	£39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Well worthy next stage in an excellent series.	92%
Constructor	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Play at being a landlord. Sounds crap? You're wrong, it's ace.	88%
Contra: Legacy of War	£44.95
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special 3D Glasses Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X 3D Version of the classic shoot 'em up. Solid blasting action.	83%
Cool Boarders	£39.99
■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X One player only, but this is still brilliant snowboarding fun.	91%
Cool Boarders 2	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Shit-hot snowboard sequel that adds a two-player mode to the original.	92%
Courier Crisis	£34.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Good fun for a while, but limited bike 'em up.	79%
Crash Bandicoot	£19.99
■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A bit frustrating, but this is one of the best platformers around.	86%

PlayStation Lab

Number one: Does hair loss make you better at games?

The experiment:

Our volunteer, Dave, had a full head of hair and was a real favourite with the ladies at his office where he worked as a systems analyst. His games prowess was 'average': he was able to reach the third level of Tomb Raider II using just two medipacks. We wanted to see how hair loss would affect his gamesplaying.

The result:

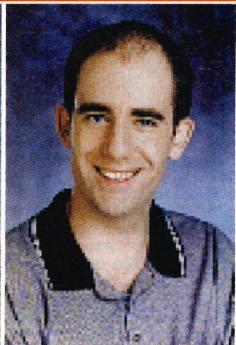
We pulled out most of Dave's hair using our hands. Following the surgery he was asked to play Tomb Raider II once again, where it was seen his had increased by 74%: he was able to reach the fifth level using no medipacks at all.

The verdict:

Hair loss does make you better at games.



■ Dave, before experiment began. A real ladies man. And a snappy dresser



■ Dave, after. Better at games, less popular with the women, dress sense stayed constant

Crash Bandicoot 2

■ Company SCEE ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Tasty platformer that's more varied than the first Crash.

Crime Killer

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Fast mix of driving and shooting lacks variety.

Critical Depth

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Good two-player submarine blast 'em up. Not so cool in single player.

Criticom

■ Company Vic Tokai ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Great graphics, but this 3D beat 'em up still loses out to Tekken.

Croc

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Cutesy graphics don't spoil this challenging platformer.

Crow 2: City of Angels

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
If you hated the movie, you'll hate this even more. Crap fighting game.

Crusader

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Excellent shooting and exploring action in this lone commando game.

Crypt Killer

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Light Gun
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
The worst lightgun game ever. Stay away!

Cyber Sled

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Dull arcade shooting game. Even Namco can make mistakes.

Cyber Speed

■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
You race about on wires. Not a WipeOut-beater.

Cyberia

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Underwhelming shooting and puzzle games.

Knowledge: updated every month

D	£44.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	Platinum 93%
Looks great, but way too short: it'll take you an hour to complete.	
Dark Forces	£44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	84%
Old-style graphics, but still an engrossing Star Wars Doom clone.	
Darklight Conflict	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	87%
3D space game delivers stunning gameplay and is difficult to master.	
Darkstalkers	£44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	78%
Street Fighter meets horror meets fairly average gameplay.	
Davis Cup Tennis	£44.95
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	50%
We reckon this stinker is one of the worst PlayStation tennis titles to date.	
Dead Ball Zone	£34.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	88%
Hyper-violent sci-fi sport game. With chainsaws.	
Dead or Alive	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock Pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	Winner 94%
Excellent fighter with added bouncing boobs. Top job.	
Deathtrap Dungeon	£44.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	90%
Tomb Raider-style adventure. But with swords.	
Defcon 5	£49.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	72%
3D adventure with more wandering about than actual exciting action.	
Descent	£44.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	81%
Doom in spaceships. If you think that's a great idea, you're right.	
Descent 2	£44.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	82%
Not enough improvements on the original, but still a good shoot 'em up.	
Destruction Derby	£19.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Negcon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	Platinum 72%
Play a while and you realise it's a shallow game: Great with two players.	
Destruction Derby 2	£19.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Negcon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	89%
Better than the original, with faster cars and wider tracks.	
Devil's Deception	£39.99
■ Company Sunsoft ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	60%
Nice idea: you play Satan's helper. But not well executed.	

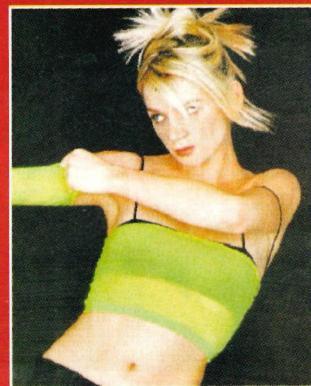
Contacts

UK PlayStation software houses

Acclaim: 0171 344 5000	Micropose: 01454 893893
Activision: 01895 456700	Mindscape: 01444 246333
Take 2 (BMG): 0171 384 7800	Namco: 0171 734 7737
Codemasters: 01926 814132	Ocean/Infogrames: 0161 832 6633
Electronic Arts: 01753 549442	Psygnosis: 0151 282 3000
Eidos: 0181 636 3000	Sony: 0171 447 1600
Gremlin: 01142 639900	Telstar: 01932 222232
GT Interactive: 0171 565 7300	THQ: 01372 745222
Interplay: 01628 423666	UBI Soft: 0181 941 4004
JVC: 0171 240 3121	Virgin: 0171 368 2255
Konami: 01895 853000	

Piss off

Celebrities we hate



1. Zoe Ball

Listen carefully to Zoe on the radio. Hear how she has a lot of trouble breathing, like she has to take big gasping breaths between sentences of pure crap. Wouldn't it be great if she had a little bit more trouble breathing?



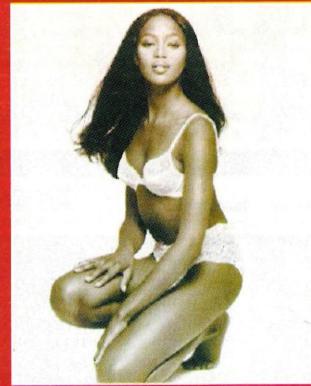
2. Chris Evans

Outside Liverpool Street station in London is a huge poster advertising Chris Evans' radio programme. Somebody has written 'I'm a prick' across his face. We'd like to shake that person by the hand.



3. Chris Evans' posse

Just try looking it up in the dictionary. Sure enough, the definition of 'a sad, talentless, bunch of no-hope hangers-on, living up the arse of a ginger wanker' is Chris Evans' posse. Which is uncanny, really.



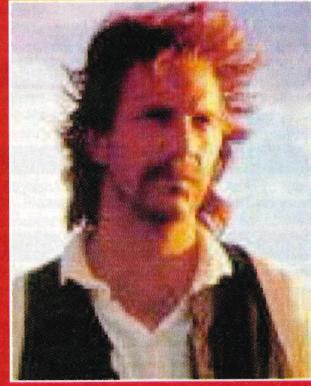
4. Naomi Campbell

Living proof there is no god. If there were he wouldn't give someone so obviously self-centred and obnoxious such stunning looks. And he'd do something about the weather, too.



5. Mr Blobby

Looks like a cock, acts like a twat. Yes, it may be true that in some circles, squealing a lot and falling over is considered comedy. But those circles are usually made up of retardos.



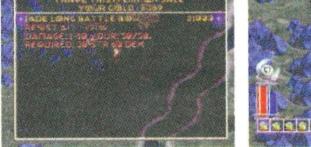
6. Kevin Costner

Not too long ago he was a Hollywood power player. His name alone was enough to get any film made. Then Waterworld and The Postman. Now his name wouldn't get an omelette made.

Diablo

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Ace adventuring without a spoddy aftertaste.



Doom

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Bloody, dark shoot 'em up that's one of the all-time greats.



Duke Nukem

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Stonking corridor shoot 'em up. Colourful, funny and very violent.



Duke Nukem: Time to Kill

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Duke gets a Tomb Raider-style adventure. Result? Very good, thanks.



Die Hard Trilogy

■ Company Fox Interactive ■ Players 1 ■ Special Gun/Wheel
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Three top games for the price of one.



DiscWorld

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Fantasy 'comedy' adventure with annoying puzzles.



Disruptor

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Flick ultimately yawnsome first-person shooter. Nice weapons though.

Earthworm Jim 2

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Conversion of the old SNES classic that manages to be a lesser copy.

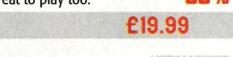
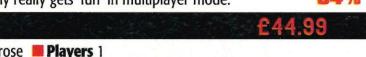
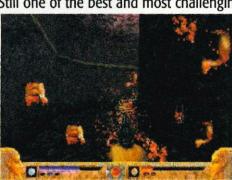
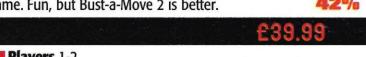
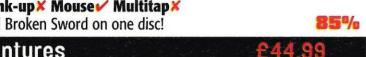
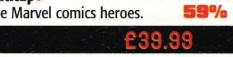
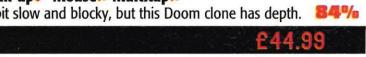
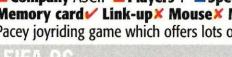
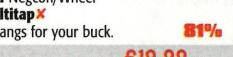
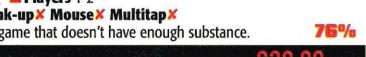
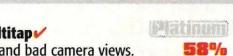
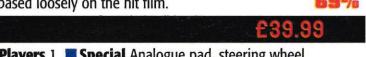
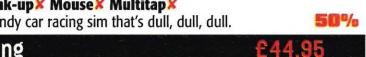
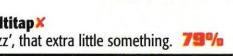
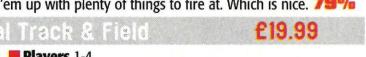
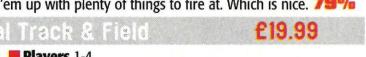
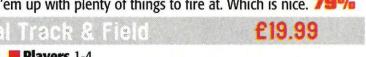
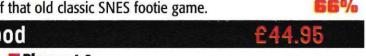
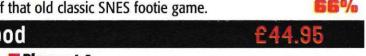
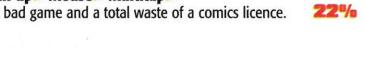


Epidemic

■ Company SONY ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Sequel to Kileak the Blood fails to improve on a pretty poor game.

64%

ESPN Extreme Games £39.99	Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 £19.99	Gran Turismo £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Oddball sports racing game with a smidgen of violence for good measure. 51%	■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ 3D graphics aren't exactly perfect but this is still a great helicopter game. 82%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue/dual shock Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ The ultimate driving game. Buy it now.
 		
Everybody's Golf £39.99	Firo and Klawd £44.95	Grid Run £44.95
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ A golf game that's - wait for it - fun! And great to play too. 85%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Interesting buddy cop game, but it loses points for no 'save game' option. 82%	■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ 'Tag' game which only really gets 'fun' in multiplayer mode. 64%
 		
Excalibur 2555AD £19.99	Floating Runner £44.99	Gunship £44.99
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Merlin's niece goes sci-fi in this Tomb Raider wannabe. A near miss. 77%	■ Company THQ ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Enjoyable, playable 3D platformer with strange viewpoint, weird controls. 81%	■ Company Microprose ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Complex, fairly playable helicopter sim, but just not that realistic... 83%
 		
Exhumed £44.95	Fluid £34.99	Hard Boiled £44.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Still one of the best and most challenging Doom-style games around. 51%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Create your own sounds and music, mix 'em all up. 84%	■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Try woodturning. Knock up a pipe rack. Just don't play this. 40%
 		
Explosive Racing £34.95	Formula 1 £44.99	Hardcore 4x4 £44.99
■ Company TOKA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Lack of control and cheesy whiff let down fun racer. 51%	■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Improvements all round for this updated racer. 89%	■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1 ■ Special Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Dull all-terrain racing game with a lack of tracks. 83%
 		
Extreme Pinball £44.95	Formula 97 £44.95	Heart of Darkness £39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, lonely, orphan of a pinball title with unrealistic ball movements. 44%	■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Slick, nice-looking mini racing: fast and furious, but the tracks are short. 81%	■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Platformer looks brilliant and plays like a peach. 88%
 		
Extreme Snow Break £39.99	Forsaken £39.99	Hebereke Popoitto £39.99
■ Company Microdroids ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Shite snowboarding rubbish. 50%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special analogue/dual pads Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ A damn fine corridor-style shooter. On bikes. Cool. 90%	■ Company Sunsoft ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Two player puzzle game. Fun, but Bust-a-Move 2 is better. 42%
 		
Fade to Black £19.99	Frenzy £34.99	Help £39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Absorbing, interesting 3D game. There's plenty to see, do and shoot. 87%	■ Company SCI ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Wannabe wacky shoot 'em up ends up being irritating and shite. 16%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Road Rash, Myst and Broken Sword on one disc! 85%
 		
Fantastic Four £34.99	Frogger 3D £39.99	Herc's Adventures £44.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Dull and repetitive beat 'em up featuring the Marvel comics heroes. 59%	■ Company Hasbro ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Retro classic given a nineties 3D respray. Buckets of gameplay. 88%	■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics. 85%
 		
Felony 11-79 £39.99	Future Cop: LAPD £44.99	Hercules £34.99
■ Company ASCII ■ Players 1 ■ Special Negcon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Pacey joyriding game which offers lots of bangs for your buck. 81%	■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Hover, stomp and blast your way through the future. Cool. 89%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Want it Cool presentation and gameplay in Disney-inspired platformer. 81%
 		
FIFA 96 £19.99	G-Darius £39.99	Hexen £44.95
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Footy game with little control over players and bad camera views. 58%	■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Stonking shoot 'em up pits you against a world of murderous fish. 89%	■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Graphics are a wee bit slow and blocky, but this Doom clone has depth. 84%
 		
FIFA 97 £44.99	G-Police £44.99	Hi-Octane £44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Not much improvement over '96, since it plays so very slowly... 64%	■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sci-fi helicopter cop thriller that grabs you by the balls. 93%	■ Company Bullfrog ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Really boring racing game that doesn't have enough substance. 76%
 		
FIFA 98: Road to World Cup £39.99	Galaxian 3D £44.99	Hybrid £39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Fairly average footy game. Only for true fans. 65%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-4 ■ Special Negcon Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Graphically impressive shoot 'em up, but lacking in gameplay. 36%	■ Company Elite ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Could this be the worst PlayStation game ever? Almost... 14%
 		
The Fifth Element £44.99	Gex £44.99	Independence Day £44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Likeable adventure, but lacks that, oh, 'pzazz', that extra little something. 79%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Goes to show that if you really try, you can produce a dull platformer. 68%	■ Company Fox Interactive ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Dated shoot 'em up based loosely on the hit film. 69%
 		
Fighting Force £44.95	Gex 3D £44.99	Indy 500 £39.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Beat 'em up adventure that's dull as dishwater. 66%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Very cool platform game. Loads of exploration and adrenalin. 91%	■ Company JVC ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad, steering wheel Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Offensively average Indy car racing sim that's dull, dull, dull. 50%
 		
Final Doom £44.99	Ghost in the Shell £34.99	Impact Racing £44.95
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ 30 new levels, but still, at the end of the day, much the same game. 89%	■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad, dual shock pad Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Manga-based robot shoot 'em up that's a bundle of laughs. 90%	■ Company JVC ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Offbeat racing game mixing Destruction Derby with Mad Max. 82%
 		
Final Fantasy VII £44.99	Goal Storm £39.99	In the Hunt £39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ An epic adventure on three CDs that blows away the competition. 97%	■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Big sprites lumber by on zimmers and stairlifts in this football game. 66%	■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ 2D submarine shoot 'em up with plenty of things to fire at. Which is nice. 79%
 		
Gran Turismo £39.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	International Track & Field £19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue/dual shock Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ The ultimate driving game. Buy it now.	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Ultra violent, immoral car game. Not a looker, but amazing gameplay. 90%	■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Addictive sports sim that's even better in its multiplayer mode. 90%
 	 	
Grid Run £44.95	Goal Storm £39.99	ISS Deluxe £44.95
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ 'Tag' game which only really gets 'fun' in multiplayer mode.	■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Straight conversion of that old classic SNES footie game. 66%	■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Straight conversion of that old classic SNES footie game. 66%
		
Gunship £44.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron and Blood £44.95
■ Company Microprose ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Complex, fairly playable helicopter sim, but just not that realistic... 83%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... 67%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... 67%
 	 	
Hard Boiled £44.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Try woodturning. Knock up a pipe rack. Just don't play this. 40%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Ultra violent, immoral car game. Not a looker, but amazing gameplay. 90%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
 	 	
Hardcore 4x4 £44.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1 ■ Special Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Dull all-terrain racing game with a lack of tracks. 83%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Ultra violent, immoral car game. Not a looker, but amazing gameplay. 90%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
 	 	
Heart of Darkness £39.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Platformer looks brilliant and plays like a peach. 88%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... 67%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
 	 	
Hebereke Popoitto £39.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Sunsoft ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Two player puzzle game. Fun, but Bust-a-Move 2 is better. 42%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Ultra violent, immoral car game. Not a looker, but amazing gameplay. 90%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Help £39.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Road Rash, Myst and Broken Sword on one disc! 85%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... 67%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Herc's Adventures £44.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics. 85%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Average 3D beat 'em up, fantasy style. Not enough to tickle your fancy... 67%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Hercules £34.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Want it Cool presentation and gameplay in Disney-inspired platformer. 85%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Graphics are a wee bit slow and blocky, but this Doom clone has depth. 84%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Hexen £44.95	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Graphics are a wee bit slow and blocky, but this Doom clone has depth. 84%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Really boring racing game that doesn't have enough substance. 76%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Hi-Octane £44.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Bullfrog ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Really boring racing game that doesn't have enough substance. 76%	■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Offensively average Indy car racing sim that's dull, dull, dull. 50%	■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Sad, shoddy drivel. A bad game and a total waste of a comics licence. 22%
Hybrid £39.99	Grand Theft Auto £39.99	Iron Man £44.99
■ Company Elite ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✓ Multitap✗ Could this be the worst PlayStation game ever? Almost... 14%	■ Company	

GEAR

Other stuff you need for your 'Station

SHOOTERS AND CHEATERS

Blaze X-plorer Cheats Cartridge £29.99 ↓

Cojones not quite large and dangly enough to cut the mustard at your favourite PlayStation games? Widger too tiny to knock 'em dead at Tekken 3? You poor, poor lad. Enter the X-plorer stage left. This little gizmo'll pump up your gaming with all sorts of illicit, cheaty add-ons for hundreds of PlayStation games: God modes, level skips, all-items cheats. The full shebang. Incompetent gamers of the world: your hour has come!

Get it out for: Well, let's think...

Rated: There've been gadgets that do this shit on the market for donkey's. But they've all been a tad expensive. This one you'll be able to own even if your name's not Tarquin or Sebaarstian. Cool. But can it cheat up new purchases, we hear you cry? But of course it can. Just check the web updates at <http://www.x-plorer.co.uk>. **90%**



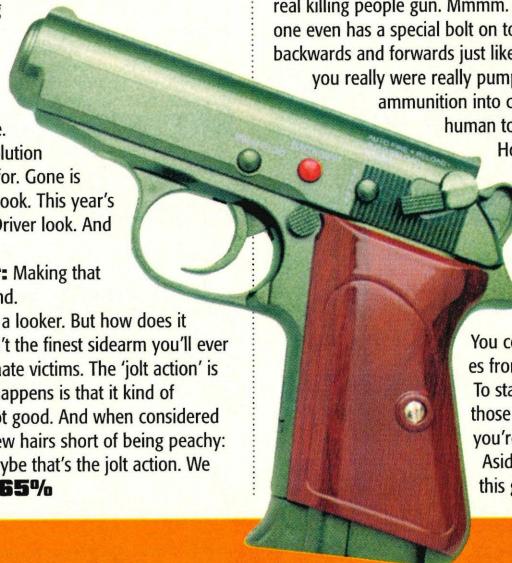
Blaze Scorpion Gun £24.99 ↑

Hey, hey, hey! They've started to make lightguns that look like real guns. Crazy men who live in the backwoods practising target shooting and killing chickens with their teeth can at last heft a lightgun with pride. This is the revolution

we bin waiting for. Gone is the Fisher Price look. This year's thing is the Taxi Driver look. And it's plenty sweet.

Get it out for: Making that wang of yours extend.

Rated: OK. So it's a looker. But how does it perform? Well... it ain't the finest sidearm you'll ever point at your unfortunate victims. The 'jolt action' is well bollocks: all that happens is that it kind of vibrates all the time. Not good. And when considered accuracy-wise this is a few hairs short of being peachy: it's kind of wobbly. Maybe that's the jolt action. We don't like it, nohow. **65%**



Nu-gen Gun £24.99 ↑

Ice cool. This is another foxy life-like firearm. Another lightgun that looks like a real killing people gun. Mmmm. And this one even has a special bolt on top that clicks backwards and forwards just like it would if you really were really pumping live ammunition into convulsing human torsos.

However, after about four seconds the noise drives you mental and then you turn it off forever. But hell, at least they had a go.

Get it out for: Those 'I need to kill again' moments.

Rated: Absolutely spot on. You could shoot off individual eyelashes from forty feet away with this beast. To start with you kind of feel sorry for those people whose internal organs you're perforating. But not for long. Aside from the annoying clicky bit, this gun completely rocks. **90%**



PADS

Sony Pad £11.99

The original and still the best standard pad for your wad: sturdy, accurate.

Get it out for: Everything and anything.

Rated: Unbeatable value: **95%**



Sony Dual Shock Pad £19.99

Analogue pad that vibrates.

Get it out for: To impress.

Rated: Sweet. This'll melt yer butter. It's top. **90%**

InterAct ProgramPad £29.99 ↓

Joypad you can program to do 87 button presses with the flick of one switch. Beat 'em up central!

Get it out for: Any beat 'em up. In fact, most games.

Rated: Beat 'em up junkies will love it! **85%**



ASCII Grip £24.99

One-handed joypad that looks and feels a bit funny. For people with weird hands.

Get it out for: One-handed. Could be useful for Tomb Raider, eh readers?

Rated: Strangely relaxing. No use for speedy play. **65%**

Gamester Analogue Joypad £19.99

This un's a blatant copy of the Sony pad. Except the original Sony pad was good.

Get it out for: To disorientate your friends.

Rated: The sticks are kind of stiff and rather useless, and the buttons are shitty. **60%**

Joytech Controller Plus £8.49

Cheap, cheap, cheap. It looks cheap, plays cheap, feels cheap.

Get it out for: To get sympathy.

Rated: You should file this up there with piles and herpes on your 'want' list. **40%**

ASCII Resident Evil 2 Control Pad £24.99

Gun-type control pad specially made for zombie murderers the world over.

Get it out for: Guess. Go, on, just guess.

Rated: Super-specific. Does what it says on the tin. **85%**

Nu-gen Joypad £8.99

Cheapo joypad with absolutely no redeeming features.

Get it out for: As a joke.

Rated: Stiff, useless, bollocks. **40%**

Joytech Dual Jolt Control Pad £24.99

Analogue joypad. Dual Jolt, Dual Shock, see?

Get it out for: Rumbling.

Rated: The analogue bits are fine and dandy, but the rumbling's a little 'funny'. **70%**

Gamester PSX 1 Control Pad £11.99

Pad that ain't kind to hands.

Get it out for: Emergencies

Rated: If Santa brought you this, you'd kill Rudolph. **55%**

Nu-gen Dual Impact £19.99

Strangely black and minimal little Dual-Shock-alike joypad.

Get it out for: To impress your so-called fashionable interior designer friends

Rated: A bit odd-shaped, and the rumbling ain't exactly gonna blow you off your seat. **55%**

ASCII Pad £24.99

Deadly accurate. Not too comfortable.

Get it out for: For Crash Bandicoot.

Rated: Still a sound buy. **90%**

Nu-gen Diablo Pad £12.99

Pad that looks like it's designed for strange people with their hands on backwards.

Get it out for: The poor and unfortunate backhanded friends you know.

Rated: Totally unusable. **45%**

The Glove £49.99

A weird sci-fi glove thing. You wiggle your wrists to control the movement, and tap buttons with yer fingers. That's the theory.

Get it out for: Er, give up. We really don't know, and we're ever-so slightly past caring.

Rated: Don't break out the champagne quite yet, one-armed gamers. It's totally unusable. Be warned. **40%**

Hyperdrive £19.99

Stupid controller with wheely bit. Made by knuckleheads for complete knuckleheads.

Get it out for: Nothing, dumbass!

Rated: Turd. **50%**

ODDMENTS

Sony Link £19.99

Top quality means top gaming when you both have PlayStations and copies of the same game.

Get it out for: Any PlayStation multiplayer like WipEout.

Rated: Perfect. **95%**

Nu-gen Link Cable £9.99

Sterling linkage, and all for half the price of the Sony effort.

Get it out for: Red Alert Retaliation

Rated: It links. It's dependable. It costs a ten spot. **95%**

Sony Memory Card £11.99

Stores up to 15 save points accessed automatically by the game. It works.

Get it out for: Whenever and for whatever.

Rated: Classic. **95%**

Coloured Memory Cards £14.99

New clothes for the old fave.

Get it out for: People who like bright colours.

Rated: We like! You can see inside of 'em! Wicked. **95%**

Datel Memory Card £24.99

Slow to store and retrieve data, and it crashes a lot.

Get it out for: When you want a challenge.

Rated: Prone to bugs. **60%**



Datel Action Replay £39.99

Packed with stacks of cheats, it'll take you through to the end of most games. And you get weekly web updates.

Get it out for: When you're stuck.

Rated: Useful. **80%**

Sony Mouse £24.99

It's grey, you get a free mat, and it works very well.

Get it out for: Point and click adventures (Broken Sword etc.).

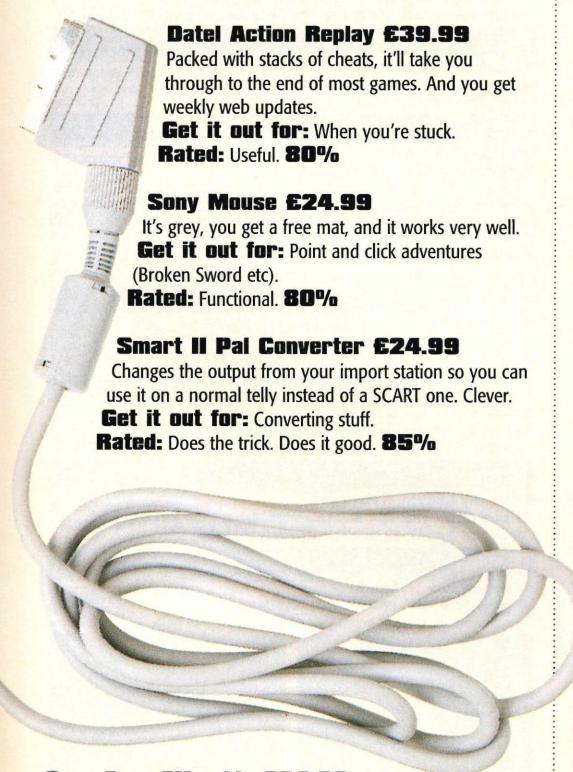
Rated: Functional. **80%**

Smart II Pal Converter £24.99

Changes the output from your import station so you can use it on a normal telly instead of a SCART one. Clever.

Get it out for: Converting stuff.

Rated: Does the trick. Does it good. **85%**



Sony Euro-AV cable £34.99

A sturdy SCART cable that delivers a top picture quality.

Get it out for: Better pictures.

Rated: Does the job. **90%**

Sony Multitap £32.99

Purpose-designed for four-player games.

Get it out for: Thrashing your mates.

Rated: Smart. **95%**

Aura Interactor £24.99

Vibrating backpack that peculiarly makes your stomach churn with every bang.

Get it out for: When you feel like stirring up your guts.

Rated: It works. But do you really want it to? **75%**



GUNS

Joytech Real Arcade Lightgun £44.99



Slick cyber-sidearm with recoiling top bit. It can shoot to kill on older games AND on G-Con compatible ones, too. Clever.

Get it out for: Time Crisis, only if you don't have a G-Con.

Rated: A touch too heavy, and not as accurate as the G-Con. Still a top performer. **85%**

G-Con 45 £59.99 (bundled with game)

This fearsome beast is hyper-accurate and sweet as a nut. It'll only work with G-Con compatible games, though, like Time Crisis, Judge Dredd and Point Blank.

Get it out for: Time Crisis.

Rated: The best lightgun. An absolute dream to use. **97%**

Predator £29.99

Tasty looking lightgun that's pinpoint-accurate. And has flashing lights too.

Get it out for: Die Hard Trilogy.

Rated: It's well accurate, but too heavy for a long bout. **80%**

Hyperblaster £29.95

Looks crap, shoots like a mean bastid. Light, easy to use, and well accurate.

Get it out for: Die Hard Trilogy.

Rated: Spot-on, brain-splattering accurate tool. **95%**

WHEELS

VRF-1 X-Cellerator £69.99

No gearstick in evidence, but a big meaty wheel. Feel-wise, it's several notches short of being a real smoothie. You kind of tend to end up turning in that on-off dabbing the joypad way that you do with an ordinary pad. Not that bad, but not brilliant...

Get it out for: Only if you don't have a Logic 3 or Gamester.

Rated: Not the top boy, but it does its stuff. Kinda. **80%**

Ultra Racer £29.99

Weirdo analogue steering wheel-ette. It's kind of like a joypad with a tiny ickle wheel stuck on it. And it works. Turns are pretty damn analoguey, and even the accelerator works like a peach.

Get it out for: Rage Racer.

Rated: Takes a while to get used to, but this does the business reasonably well. But if you ain't gonna be playing a fully analogue compatible game, just forget it. **80%**

Logic 3 £69.99

This is super-slick. It not only looks the business, it is the bizz.

It's even got leather bits on it. It makes you feel like you should be rolling down the car window and saying 'Well, hi, girls'. But you can't. You can, however, turn smoother than you can possibly imagine, and purr along with a head-to-toe driving suaveness that'll make you the envy of yer chums.

Get it out for: TOCA Touring Car.

Rated: Turns're sweet and neat.

The pedals are just so. Everything's so perfect, dammit! **95%**

Gamester II Wheel and Pedals

Big beefy pedals, smooth turning circle and a sweet analogue feel. This has got all the ingredients necessary to ring your bell.

Get it out for: tearing up the tarmac

Rated: Not quite up to the old gold standard of big daddy Logic 3, but still a tasty purchase. Well worth your attention, boys and gals. **94%**



STICKS

Sony ASCII Joystick £49.99

Bashy joystick that's got the moves when it comes to chopsocky bashing action...

Get it out for: Annoying your mates at Tekken.

Rated: This oozes kung-fu class, but the turbos and autofires might make it a touch easy to come out tops in beat 'em ups. **80%**

PS II £34.99

Big arcade stick where the buttons are too big to get those Tekken combos a-flowin'.

Get it out for: Tekken 2, if you're not a combo fiend.

Rated: A fine piece of kit with one obvious flaw... **75%**

Logic 3 Dominator £24.99

Big traditional joystick type stick which turns like a little sweetie.

Get it out for: Them analogue compatible racing games.

Rated: For gaming grandpas everywhere. Nice to see old joysticks limping with us into the twenty-first century. **80%**



Sony Analogue Joypad £49.99

Two-stick stick for budding Biggles...

Get it out for: Air Combat 2.

Rated: Way specialist, but this one still does the bizz. **70%**

Negcon £29.99

This is one weird-looking analoguey turning thing. Surreal to look at but it's not half bad to play with. However, if you play games from the heart, there is a slight danger that you'll rip the damn thing's sensitive circuitry out on the hairpins, turning it into a useless lump o' junk. We have warned you.

Get it out for: Rage Racer

Rated: Lots o' fun, and scores high on the surrealometer. Pretty slick, but takes a while to get used to. **90%**

Mad Catz Steering Wheel £56.99

The official Sony wheel. It's got everything you want in a wheel. The pedals on it are sweet, the turning is oh-so-smooth and the braking's hard. And hey! Look, it's even got that official Sony stamp on it!

Get it out for: Whenever it takes your fancy.

Rated: A damn fine buy. It ain't quite top dog, but it's been guzzling the marrowbone Pal and it's not far off the top spot. We like this one. **93%**

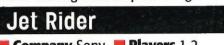
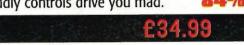
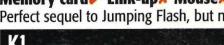
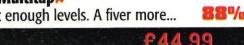
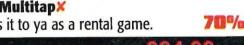
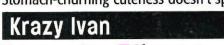
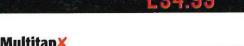
Gamester Rumble Force Wheel £69.99

This un purrs like an ickle pussy cat on the straights, and buzzes out the strange deep-throated growl of the bigger varieties of ladies' personal pleaser when you hit trouble. And it steers like a bleedin' demon, too. Smooth, slick, responsive, superb. Jeez, it even smells good.

Get it out for: Taking on Colin McRae Rally.

Rated: This is rather thumb-suckin' good with Colin McRae Rally, but it'll warm the cockles of your heart with just about any 'Station racer you care to name or play. Hot damn. And, thanks to a mighty clever little gizmo that you get bundled with it when you get it, it'll even work with the steering-wheel-scrambling Gran Turismo. **93%**

The Knowledge: updated every month

ISS Pro	£19.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	91%
Soccer old-timer that's still slotting 'em in with the best of them.	
	
ISS Pro 98	£44.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	94%
This is a pick-up-and-play-classic. Every home should have one.	
	
Iznoigoud	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	9%
Iz really no good. Iz shit, actually.	
	
Jeremy McGrath Supercross 98	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	52%
Supercross? Crapcross, more like.	
	
Jersey Devil	£44.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	90%
Good looking cartoon platform game that is hard as nails to play.	
	
Jet Rider	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	63%
Innovative racer is let down by poor graphics and weak gameplay.	
	
Jet Rider II	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	30%
Lame sci-fi racing sequel that manages to be shitter than the original.	
	
Johnny Bazookatone	£39.99
■ Company US Gold ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	60%
A Rock 'n' Roll platformer with poor gameplay.	
	
Jonah Lomu Rugby	£44.99
■ Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap ✓	84%
Brilliant rugby simulation, but bloody fiddly controls drive you mad.	
	
Judge Dredd	£34.99
■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Lightgun Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	72%
Fast and good looking sci-fi lightgun shooter that doesn't stand out.	
	
Jumping Flash	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	89%
Super 3D platformer which has just too few levels to make it a winner.	
	
Jumping Flash 2	£44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	88%
Perfect sequel to Jumping Flash, but not enough levels. A fiver more...	
	
K1	£44.99
■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	55%
Substandard beat 'em up. It's saving grace is reasonable graphics.	
	
Kick Off 97	£44.99
■ Company Maxis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	60%
It shoots! It misses by an absolute mile.	
	
Kick Off World	£34.99
■ Company Funsoft ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	60%
OK-to-play footy effort that looks like it's from a bygone age.	
	
King of Fighters 95	Rental
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Rental Only Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	70%
Not original, but this 2D effort still socks it to ya as a rental game.	
	
Klonoa	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	86%
Stomach-churning cuteness doesn't spoil excellent platformer.	
	
Krazy Ivan	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	73%
Graphics win over playability in this robot game.	
	
Kula World	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	89%
Very classy head-stretching puzzle game.	
	

Kurushi

£34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

68%

Block-based puzzle game that isn't going to be the next Tetris.

The Last Report £39.99 |

■ Company Micros ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

35%

Adventure/puzzle game. Like Resident Evil except piss poor.

Little Big Adventure £44.99 |

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

91%

Brilliant PlayStation conversion of the PC adventure classic.

Legacy of Kain £44.99 |

■ Company BMG ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

92%

Vampire action/adventure game with a hugely enjoyable challenge.

Lethal Enforcers £34.99 |

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Lightgun
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

30%

Awful conversion of already-bad arcade lightgun game.

Loaded

£39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

75%

An action-packed traditional sort of blaster, lacking in variety.

Lomax in Lemmingland £44.95 |

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

70%

It's a Lemmings-inspired platformer. Our verdict? It just leaves us cold.

Lone Soldier £39.99 |

■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

72%

This strikes us as being pretty much Commando in 3D, but way too slow.

Lost Vikings 2 £44.99 |

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

63%

Average arcade game which fails to deliver much originality.

The Lost World £44.99 |

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

81%

Platformer from Spielberg's dinofest. Never really gets its teeth into you...

Lucky Luke £39.99 |

■ Company Infogrames ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Rent it 78%

A good laugh action game spoilt by shite platform bits.

Machine Hunter £44.95 |

■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

88%

A top-down shoot 'em which takes on Loaded fair and square.

Madden 98 £44.99 |

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

89%

Finely tuned gameplay make this current king of the grid-iron games.

Madden 99 £44.99 |

■ Company Electronic Arts ■ Players 1-4 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

73%

Not exactly the best Yank football game ever.

Madden NFL 97 £44.99 |

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

86%

A good, solid American Football simulation that'll keep you coming back for more.

Magic Carpet £44.99 |

■ Company Bullfrog ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

90%

Fast 3D sorcery shoot 'em up with many levels to explore.

Masters of Teras Kasi £39.99 |

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

30%

Star Wars characters in a beat 'em up? We'd rather inject horse snot.

Marvel Super Heroes £44.99 |

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

90%

Comic book characters beating the stuffing out of each other. Superb.

Maximum Force £39.99 |

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Lightgun
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

50%

Conversion of a crap arcade shoot 'em up. Why did they bother?

MDK £49.99 |

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

80%

Interesting shoot 'em up let down badly by patchy graphics.

Mechwarrior 2 £44.99 |

■ Company Activision ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

83%

Giant robots in quality 3D shoot 'em up. Plenty of blasting action.

MediEvil £44.99 |

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

92%

Does slaughtering demons pump your nads? It sure pumps ours.

MegaMan Battle and Chase £44.99 |

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

36%

Cheapo racing game fails to deliver laughs or thrills.

MegaMan X3 £44.95 |

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

81%

Platformer rates playability over looks. 9 levels will keep you busy.

MegaMan 8 £39.95 |

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

53%

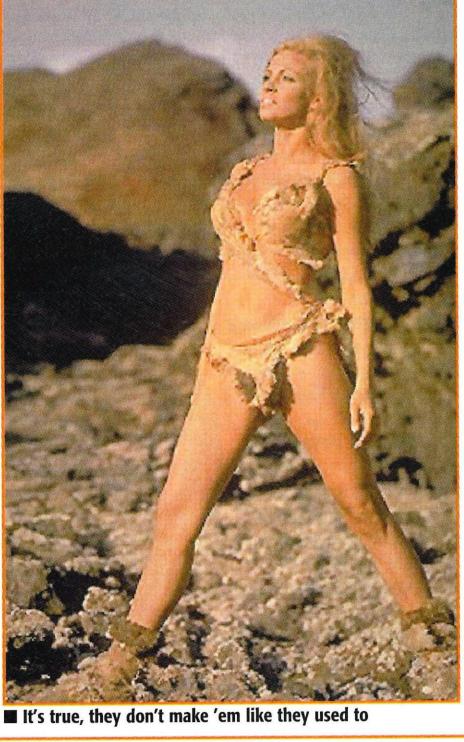
Cutesy platform shooter with nothing new or interesting to offer.

Men in Black £39.99 |

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

69%

Hugely disappointing film conversion. Nice looking, but no game.



It's true, they don't make 'em like they used to

Mickey's Wild Adventure £39.99

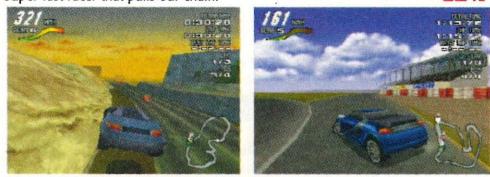
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Don't let 'wild' and 'adventure' sucker you: Another average platformer. 66%

Midnight Run £39.99

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Superfast racing game that's a total turd to play. Ughhhh. 65%

Motorhead £39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Super-fast racer that pulls our chain. 52%



Motor Mash £44.99

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Derivative comic racing game: nice graphics, but it's slow and dull. 58%

Micro Machines V3 £19.99

■ Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-8
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
The best multi-player game on the PlayStation. A real racing classic. 91%

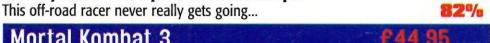


Monopoly £39.99

■ Company Hasbro ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Smooth PlayStation version of the classic board game. 78%

Monster Trucks £44.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
This off-road racer never really gets going... 82%



Mortal Kombat 3 £44.95

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
MK fans will go mental, but for us, Streetfighter still rules the 2D scene. 91%



Mortal Kombat 4 £34.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
At the end of the day, it's just another Mortal Kombat game. Yawn. 74%



Mortal Kombat Mythologies £44.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Boring, unplayable one-player quest version of the old beat 'em up. 50%



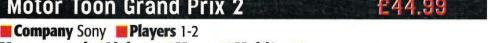
Mortal Kombat Trilogy £44.95

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
About every MK character, so hardcore MKers will be happy... 51%



Moto Racer £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Very speedy arcade racer with lots to recommend it. 85%



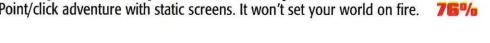
Motor Toon Grand Prix 2 £44.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Comic racing game manages to trounce the original. 85%



Mr Domino £34.99

■ Company JVC ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Puzzle game spoilt by poor control. 70%



Myst £44.95

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Point-click adventure with static screens. It won't set your world on fire. 75%

So that's what you used to look like

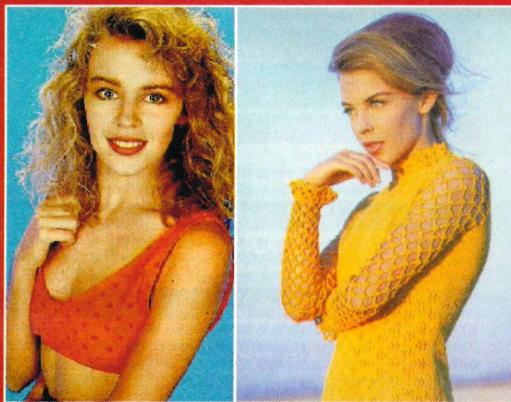
A rummage through the photo albums of the stars

Kylie Minogue

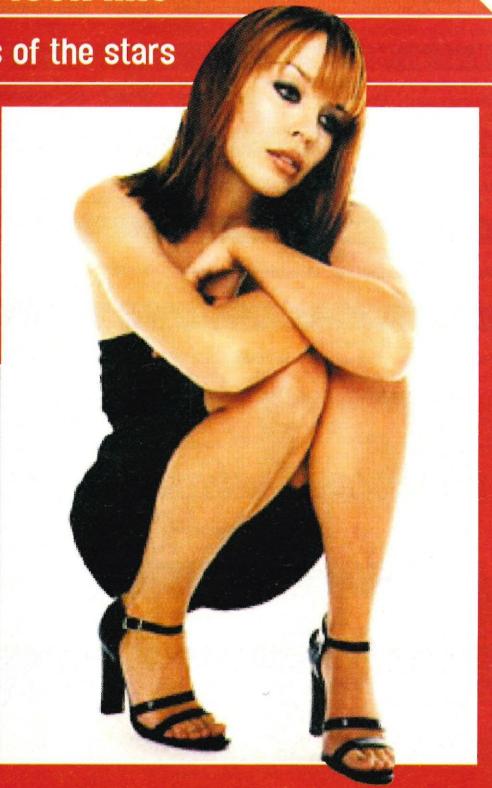
Nowadays Kylie's the sexed-up Tsarina of the torn trouser seam. But there was a time when the sight of the Aussie singer would have had your fingers reaching down your throat.

First, in Neighbours she defined squeaky clean. Then there was her pop career: she was as cute as an Andrex puppy wrestling with a kitten. In short, everybody hated Kylie.

Lucky, Kylie discovered raunch and became sexKylie. After a period of looking foxy but intelligent, she declared war on the nation's trousers. We've barely walked upright since...



1 Kylie Minogue: You should be so lucky... 2 Kylie, lucky, lucky... 3 Kylie!



N20 £39.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Fast, arcade shoot 'em up with an ace techno soundtrack. We like. 89%

Nagano Winter Olympics £39.99

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

The people who brought you Track and Field slip up with this bollocks. 35%

Namco Museum Vol.1 £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Hits from the gaming crypt. And yes, it does include Pacman. 84%

Namco Museum Vol.2 £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Nowhere near as strong a collection, unless you're a big Xevious fan. 63%

Namco Museum Vol.3 £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

There is just too much dross on this disc... 71%

Namco Museum Vol.4 £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Only PacLand stands out from the crowd here. 67%

Namco Museum Vol.5 £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Retro compilation that makes it courtesy of a couple of gems. 75%

Nanotek Warrior £39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Enjoyable shooting action, but a lack of levels to keep you interested. 77%

NASCAR 98 £39.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Ugly, dull racing game with a hideous soundtrack. 64%

NASCAR Racing £44.95

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Crap Days of Thunder-style racing game, bad in every single way... 35%

NBA Fastbreak £39.99

■ Company Midway ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Very realistic but frustrating to play. 65%

NBA Hangtime £39.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Basketball game. Bit of a laugh. Nuff said. 72%

NBA in the Zone £44.95

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

The large sprites are pretty agile, and it has more pace than Total NBA... 85%

NBA in the Zone 2 £44.95

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Beefed-up graphics make this slam-dunk sequel quite classy. 91%



NBA Jam Extreme £44.95

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Yet another basketball game: a couple of outrageous comic features. 80%

NBA Jam Tournament £39.99

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Conversion of the coin-op with 2D characters going two-on-two. 86%

NBA Live 96 £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Uses the FIFA '96 graphics engine, and it shows all too clearly... 81%

NBA Live 98 £39.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-8 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Good-looking basketball effort that offers a bouncing bundle of gameplay. 87%

NBA Live 97 £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-8
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Brilliant multiplayer game with loads of options. 91%



NBA Pro 98 £39.99

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-4
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

We don't need anymore basketball games, thanks. 30%

Need for Speed £19.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

A second rate bash at Ridge Racer. It definitely needs more speed... 70%

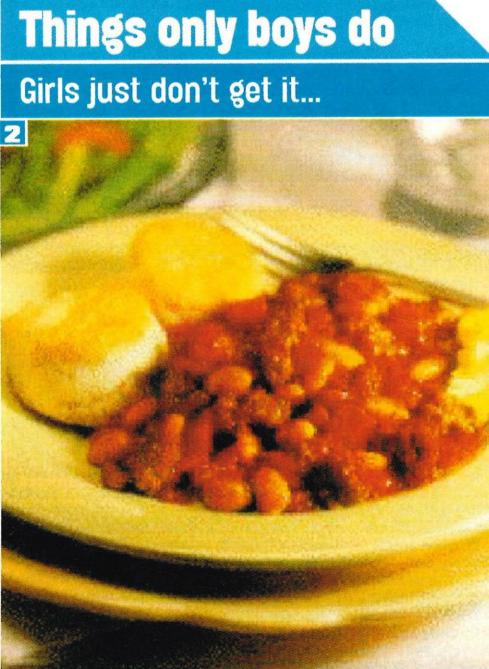
Need for Speed 2 £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2
Memory card ✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Looks crap, and plays even worse than its prequel. 49%

The Knowledge: updated every month

Need for Speed III	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Very fast, good-looking racer. Miles better than one and two.	89%
Newman Haas Racing	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
A bit of a poor F1 copy. Only for die-hards.	75%
NFL Gameplay	£44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Pretty average in every department.	82%
NFL Quarterback Club	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Competent sports sim let down by blocky graphics...	75%
NHL 97	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Polygon-based sprites make this a really good-looking sports sim...	91%



1. The powerball slam

If you've got bloke in your genes then you've got hold of a powerball, found the nearest bit of concrete, and thrown that bad boy downwards as hard as you can. It's scientifically impossible for girls to get any kind of enjoyment out of this.

2. Baked beans on toast

Boys have a unique relationship with beans on toast. There are three reasons for this: 1. It's an easy-to-prepare dish. 2. It tastes yummy. 3. It makes you fart loads. Girls just do not understand the special love that exists between a man and his beans.

3. Snowbaths

Many's the time a group of girls have stood around watching three blokes hold another one down while they shove snow into his clothes and face. 'One day these things will expect to sleep with us,' the girls are thinking. 'Maybe I should become a lesbian...'

4. Hot curry

See, when a girl goes for a curry, she wants to sample the delicacies of a different culture and thus broaden her palate. For a bloke, curry means competition. 'Bring me the hottest you've got', he'll say, 'Except make it hotter.'

5. Trolley surfing

Ever seen a girl running around with a shopping trolley before jumping onto the trolley and careening off down the supermarket aisle and coming to grief against a stack of diet lemonade? Thought not.

NHL 98	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Ice hockey game that's even slicker than last year's version.	91%
NHL Breakaway 98	£44.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
If ice hockey's your bag, this ain't bad for a spin.	89%
NHL Face Off	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Nice looking but dull ice hockey effort. Nothing new here.	65%
NHL Face Off 97	£34.95
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Just another average sequel, in spite of extra features...	65%
NHL Open Ice	£34.95
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Arcade-style ice hockey game. No great shake.	70%
NHL Powerplay 98	£39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-8 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
If you've gotta get a hockey game, you could do a lot worse...	89%

Nightmare Creatures	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Buckets o' blood in this Victorian hack and slash zombie epic. Way cool.	89%
Ninja: Shadow of Darkness	£44.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Good-looking killing game, let down by lack of variety.	82%
The Note	£39.99
■ Company Sunsoft ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Basic adventure. Boring and dull.	45%
Nova Storm	£39.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Start game. Fire continuously. Finish game eventually. That's it...	55%
Nuclear Strike	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
explosive and absorbing strategic shoot 'em up.	91%

Off World Interceptor	£39.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
4x4s bounce about on the moon in this dull race game.	68%
Olympic Games	£44.95
■ Company US Gold ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
International Track and Field is the game to beat. This doesn't come close.	70%
Olympic Soccer	£44.95
■ Company US Gold ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
One of the most playable footie games on the PlayStation.	93%

One	£39.99
■ Company ASC ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue Pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Fast, good looking ultra-violent platform shooter let down by dull combat.	83%
OnSide	£44.99
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
This is the most incredibly bland footie game.	65%
Overblood	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Quite annoying Resident Evil clone with little action.	76%

Pandemonium	£19.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Stunning effects instinctive gameplay puts other platforms to shame.	91%
Pandemonium 2	£44.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Big platformer, trippy visuals. Worth a look.	83%
Panzer General	£44.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Full-blown strategy game is hard work thanks to historical accuracy.	58%
Parappa the Rapper	£29.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Original, fun rapping version of Simon Says. Offbeat and amusing.	89%
Pax Corpus	£39.99
■ Company Cryo ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
For a joke, persuade a mate to buy this piece of shit...	38%
Peak Performance	£39.99
■ Company JVC ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Substandard racing game. Lots of options, not much else.	65%

Perfect Weapon	£44.95
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Beat 'em up-style adventure which is crap in both departments.	51%
PGA Tour 96	£19.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
A dodgy putting system lets this golf sim down badly.	58%
PGA Tour 97	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Probably the best-looking golf sim, but gameplay is becoming too similar.	65%
PGA Tour 98	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Golf game that fails to offer anything new.	68%
Phat Air Snowboarding	£34.99
■ Company Funsoft ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Snowboarding-bandwagon-jumper that doesn't quite cut the mustard.	75%
Pitball	£44.95
■ Company Warner ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Speedball-type thing, but with pretty bog-standard looks and playability.	73%
Pitfall 3D	£39.99
■ Company Activision ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Very playable platformer thankfully without cuteness.	84%
Player Manager	£44.95
■ Company Anco ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Predictable results spoil this footie management sim.	68%
Pocket Fighter	£39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Street Fighter characters get small. Cool, but only for fanatics really.	79%
Po' Ed	£44.99
■ Company Warner ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Interesting weapons, surprise monsters raise a laugh in this Doom-clone.	76%
Point Blank	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special G-Con 45 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Amazingly cool shooting-gallery-style compilation game.	92%
Porsche Challenge	£19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Driving game let down by lack of variety, and lack of tracks.	80%
Powerplay Hockey 96	£44.95
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	
Good range of aggressive matches. Fast-paced, end-to-end stuff	85%

Power Soccer 2 £34.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓
Amazingly average footie game that won't hold your interest.

70%

Poy Poy £34.95

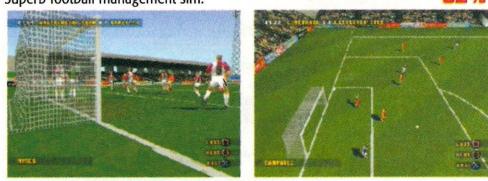
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓
Cool multiplayer game. Not so good by yourself.

83%

Premier Manager 98 £44.99

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse✓ Multitap X
Superb football management sim.

Winner 92%



£44.99

Pro Pinball: The Web £44.95

■ Company Empire ■ Players 1-4
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Ball movement so fluid it handles like the real thing.

Winner 93%



£44.95

Pro Pinball Timeshock £24.99

■ Company Empire ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
One big, beautiful mother of a pinball table: all yours to have and hold...

89%

Project Overkill £44.95

■ Company Konami ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
High-tech, underachieving version of the old arcade stalwart Bezerk...

78%

Psychic Detective £44.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Loads of endings, views and three CDs make this enjoyable.

84%

Psychic Force £44.95

■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
An enjoyable enough 3D beat 'em up, but it lacks depth.

76%

R-types £39.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual shock pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Two games one old, one new. Both top of the range shoot 'em ups.

81%

Rage Racer £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special NegCon/Wheel
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Classic racing game. One of the best on the PlayStation. Buy it!

93%



£39.99

Raging Skies £44.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Flight sim looks dated and gets repetitive after a while. Pretty average.

73%

Raiden Project £39.99

■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Enjoyable, but limited. Animation and graphics are only mediocre...

72%



£39.99

Rally Cross £34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-4 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Rolling cars aplenty in fun racer, plus 4 player mode...

88%

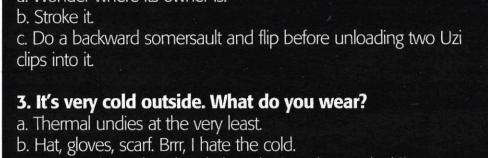


£34.99

Rampage World Tour £34.99

■ Company GT ■ Players 1-3
Memory card X Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Pick a monster and smash up towns. As much fun as it sounds.

69%

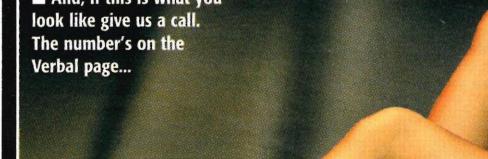


£34.99

Rapid Racer £34.95

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
White water racer: let down by slow two-player mode.

82%



£34.95

Rapid Reload £39.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Entertaining, but limited platform shoot 'em up.

90%

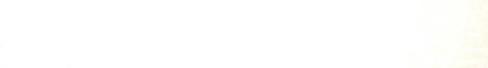


£39.99

Rascal £44.99

■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Disappointing platformer made worse by cackola camera angles.

53%



£44.99

Rayman £19.99

■ Company UBI Soft ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Repetitive platformer with a lack of flexibility.

43%

£19.99

Ray Storm £34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Vertical blasting shoot 'em up that's tough, demanding and fast.

83%

£34.99

Ray Tracers £34.99

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Car chase game has some good action, but it's over far too quickly.

73%

£34.99

Real Bout: Fatal Fury RENTAL

■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Very stale and slow beat 'em up. Avoid.

30%

£44.99

Rebel Assault 2 £44.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
A Star Wars romp, but there's not enough variety and trickery.

46%

£44.99

Reboot £39.99

■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Hover board game feels great to play, but limited.

83%

£39.99

Red Asphalt: Rock & Roll Racing 2 £44.99

■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon/Steering wheel
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Speedsters with awesome firepower fail to mix into a gameplay Molotov.

68%

£44.99

Reloaded £44.95

■ Company Gremlin ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Smidgin better than the original. But that wasn't much fun either.

73%

£44.95

Resident Evil £49.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
This horror adventure is one of the PlayStation's finest games.

94%

£49.99

Resident Evil 2 £49.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Awesome update of the original spread over two shit-kickin' discs.

95%

£49.99

Resident Evil Director's Cut £34.99

■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
Cash-in version of the original that's got lots of nice touches.

91%

£34.99

£34.99

Return Fire £44.95

■ Company Warner ■ Players 1-2
Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
You take out enemy bases with a selection of army vehicles. Good fun.

91%

£44.95

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Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
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The Knowledge: updated every month

Revolution X	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	48%
Aerosmith feature throughout... but this is one sad game really.	
Ridge Racer	£19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special NegCon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	76%
Excellent racing game, but lacking in tracks.	
Ridge Racer Revolution	£19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	84%
Better than the original, with more cars and better controls.	
Rise 2: Resurrection	£44.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	78%
Despite plenty of fighters, this is still only a mediocre beat 'em up...	
Riot	£44.95
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-16 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	67%
Despite mega multiplayer possibility, this game offers little for your cash.	
Risk	£39.99
■ Company Hasbro ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	81%
A new spin on the classic board game that's well worth a look.	
Riven	£49.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	84%
Clever and great looking puzzle game. But not for everyone.	
Road Rash	£19.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	64%
Straightforward, frustrating racing game.	
Road Rash 3D	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	80%
Laughs aplenty in bikes 'n' violence racer.	
Robotron X	£44.95
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	66%
Simple, mindless run and shoot shenanigans. Overpriced, underspecified.	
Rosco McQueen	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	78%
Firefighting fun. A good laugh but more suited to youngsters.	
Sampars Extreme Tennis	£44.95
■ Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	89%
Real ease of play and lots of views raise it above unseeded rivals...	

Samurai Showdown	Rental	£44.95
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	19%	Plasticine-tastic action with a clay hero bouncing on monkeys' heads.
Abysmal rental-only beat 'em up.		79%
San Francisco Rush	£34.99	
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	48%	Why buy a good racing game when you could play this lump of turd?
Even though it's a racing game.		84%
SCARS	£39.99	
■ Company Ubi Soft ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	83%	Laughs replace realism in cool racer. Be warned though: it's tough.
Set on a spaceship, this game is pretty ambitious, but too complicated.		71%
Sentient	£44.95	
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	30%	Set on a spaceship, this game is pretty ambitious, but too complicated.
Even having your eyes skewed with fish hooks is better than this.		88%
Shadow Master	£39.99	
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue Pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	75%	You in a tank and loads of mindless blasting. Very good.
Even having your eyes skewed with fish hooks is better than this.		82%
Shellshock	£44.99	
■ Company Core Design ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	56%	Pretty second rate: levels are dull and grey, and action is very limited.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		75%
Shockwave	£39.99	
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	91%	You build a city, and then you run it. Complex strategy.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		92%
Sim City 2000	£44.99	
■ Company Maxis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	51%	Good sound effects and graphics create a classy 3D chopper shoot 'em up.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		84%
Skeleton Warriors	£44.95	
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	69%	Looks, smells and feels like an old 16-bit game... and it plays like one too.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		80%
Space Hulk	£19.99	
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	84%	Drag mercenaries around. Slow but good strategy/action game.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		84%
Space Jam	£44.95	
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	65%	Dull movie-based cash-in basketball game. Why put yourself through it?
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		65%
Spawn: The Eternal	£39.99	
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	32%	Useless blend of beat 'em up and adventure. Avoid.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		32%
Speed King	£44.95	
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	45%	Slow, boring and about as exciting as watching an egg boil. Maybe less so.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		45%
Speedster	£44.95	
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	54%	Top-down view racing game that's lacking in speed and playability.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		54%
Spice World	£19.99	
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	21%	A shabby excuse of a game. Short, boring and unimaginative.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		21%
Spider	£39.99	
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	70%	An innovative idea for a platform game, but fails to rise above average.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		70%
Spot goes to Hollywood	£34.95	
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	77%	Too little, too late for this platformer. Er, it's got good music though...
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		77%
Star Gladiator	£44.95	
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	91%	Capcom's first 3D beat 'em up. They don't make a bad job of it either.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		91%
Starfighter 3000	£44.95	
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	80%	Nice enough to have a gawp at, but there's not enough going on.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		80%
Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi	£34.99	
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	30%	A shite bubble of a Star Wars beat 'em up. Absolute crap.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		30%
Starwinder	£44.95	
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X	59%	Simplistic racing game where every level plays the same.
Empty shoot 'em up with tiny sprites against a dull background.		59%

Bad moments in life: number three

The phone call

The phone call is the enemy of gamers. It is never welcome and it always goes on for far too long. Here's how to spot one...

When it arrives...

Always at the most inconvenient point. Will it ring as you're wandering around a level in Tomb Raider, easily able to push the pause button? Nah, of course not. It'll ring just as the level's loading, so you have to hang on before you can hit pause.

Or even worse, the phone'll go just as you're into a movie scene on Resident Evil – when you can't pause it at all. Then there's the 'halfway-round-a-track-on-Gran-Turismo' call, when the telephonic interruption means all the difference between first and last place. Let's face it, there's never a good time.

Who it is...

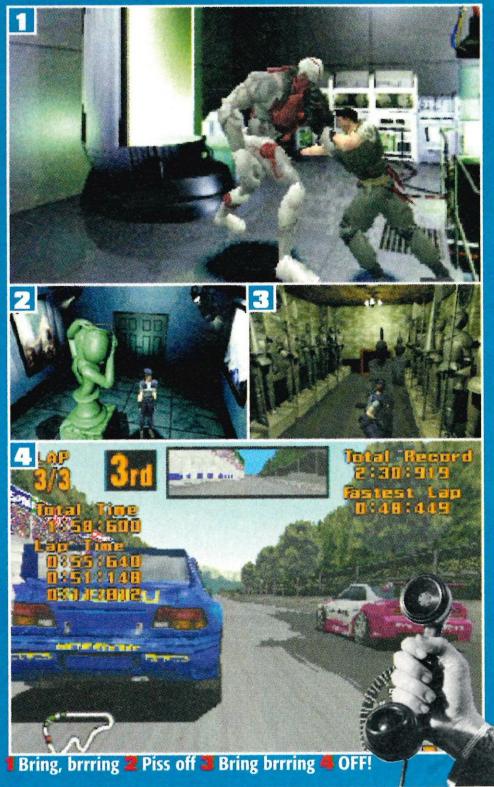
If it's your mum, you got big trouble. Chances are you won't have spoken to her for ages, and she'll want to know what you've been up to. 'Are you still seeing that lovely girl?' All that kind of thing. She ain't gonna take, 'My beans are getting cold' for an answer.

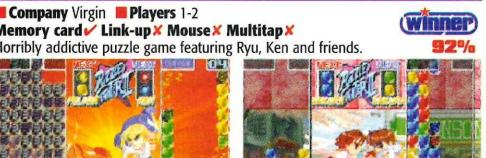
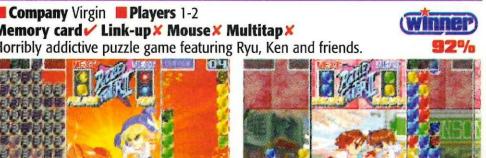
If it's your girlfriend you've gotta be extra careful. Again, if you sound rushed and want to get off the phone quickly, you'll be in hot water. Chances are, you'll just have to dangle.

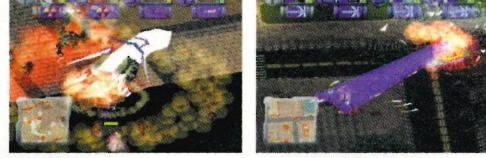
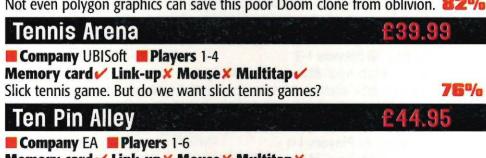
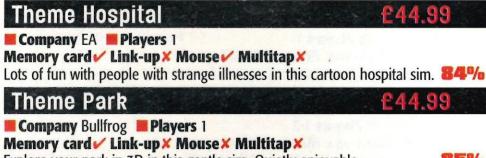
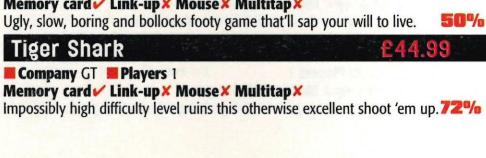
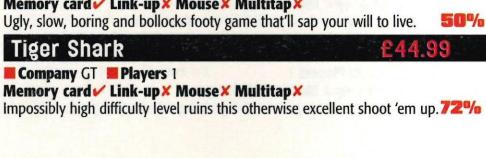
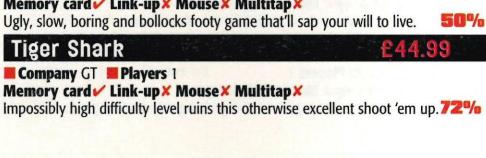
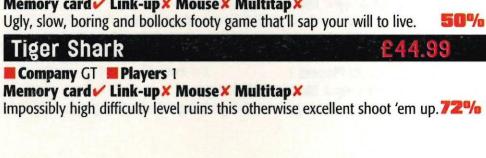
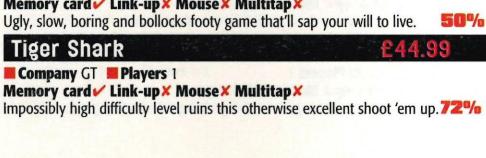
If it's a mate, tell him to piss off. He'll understand.

What to do

Any of these excuses will help you out of the fix: 'The doorbell's just gone.' 'I suddenly need to go to the toilet.' 'I'm expecting a call from the hospital.' 'There's never a good time to say it, but I've always hated you.'

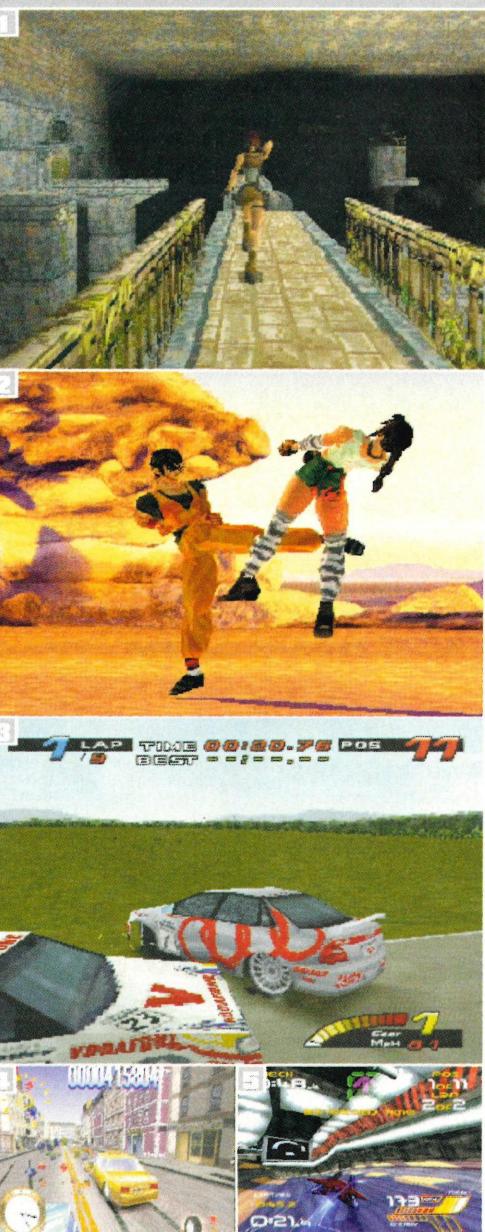


Steel Harbinger	£44.95
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Dull graphics, but 11 levels and variety of weapons can make this fun.	79%
Steel Reign	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue Pad Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Cool tank game that can be a bit repetitive. Worth a look, though.	75%
Street Fighter Alpha	£44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Update of Street Fighter series with new moves and new characters.	91%
	
Street Fighter Alpha 2	£44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Custom combos and counter-moves add up to an excellent sequel.	92%
	
Street Fighter Collection	£39.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Joypad✓ Three Street Fighter games, one CD. That's science for you.	87%
	
Street Fighter Ex Plus Alpha	£44.95
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Superb fighting in 3D take on the Street Fighter theme.	93%
	
Street Fighter The Movie	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Insult to the Street Fighter name. Based on the movie.	67%
	
Street Racer	£44.95
■ Company UBI Soft ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Fair to middling racing game with plenty to do, except get excited...	79%
	
Strikepoint: the Hex Missions	£44.95
■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Poor helicopter game. Why not have a bash at Soviet Strike instead?	60%
	
Striker 96	£39.99
■ Company Warner ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Simplistic footie game. Binary soccer at its worst.	69%
	
Suikoden	£44.99
■ Company Konami ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Solid role-playing game that isn't going to change your life...	81%
	
Super Match Soccer	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-8 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Yawnsome footie game. For God's sake don't buy it.	33%
	
Super Football Champ	£39.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Oh dear. Drab, boring, unplayable. Truly hideous football game.	46%
	
Super Pang Collection	£39.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ An arcade-perfect version of the retro bubble-bursting games.	53%
	
Super Puzzle Fighter 2	£39.95
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Horribly addictive puzzle game featuring Ryu, Ken and friends.	92%
	

Supersonic Racers	£44.95
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Micro Machines-style racer doesn't pull out enough stops to keep you hooked.	74%
Swagman	£44.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ There's plenty of arcade-style fun on offer in this great-looking 2D game.	85%
Syndicate Wars	£44.95
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✓ This is an ultra-cool and violent strategy shoot 'em up with amazing 3D graphics.	92%
	
Tekken	£19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Namco's first beat 'em up. Interesting backgrounds, realistic characters.	90%
	
Tekken 2	£19.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Improves on a great original. One of the best fighting games around...	95%
	
Tekken 3	£44.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ The big daddy of all beat 'em ups. So good it hurts	96%
	
Tempest X3	£34.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ A PlayStation update of a justifiably great retro shooter.	80%
	
Tenka	£44.95
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Not even polygon graphics can save this poor Doom clone from oblivion.	82%
	
Tennis Arena	£39.99
■ Company UBI Soft ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Slick tennis game. But do we want slick tennis games?	76%
	
Ten Pin Alley	£44.95
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-6 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Could have been good fun... but sadly it isn't. No more than a novelty.	54%
	
Test Drive: Off Road	£39.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Devoid of excitement and playability. Looks dreadful too.	46%
	
Test Drive 4	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ It's got lots of tracks, but it's slow and it don't look too nice.	70%
	
Tetris Plus	£44.99
■ Company JVC ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Classic puzzle game gets a revamp. Still dead addictive.	82%
	
Theme Hospital	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Lots of fun with people with strange illnesses in this cartoon hospital sim.	84%
	
Theme Park	£44.99
■ Company Bullfrog ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Explore your park in 3D in this gentle sim. Quietly enjoyable.	85%
	
Three Lions	£39.99
■ Company BMG ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Ugly, slow, boring and bollocks footy game that'll sap your will to live.	50%
	
Tiger Shark	£44.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up✗ Mouse✗ Multitap✗ Impossibly high difficulty level ruins this otherwise excellent shoot 'em up.	72%
	

Pick of the Platinum

The best of £20 games



Hey, been living in Uranus lately? Then chances are you don't know about platinum games: top titles at the budget price of £19.99. Here's the pick of the bunch...

1. Tomb Raider

Lara Croft's first outing is still a classic PlayStation moment. And for twenty nicker this is the dictionary definition of value for money.

2. Tekken 2

Word is, some folks don't own this. Know any of 'em? If so, hunt them down and put them down like the dogs they are. Scum like that deserve no less.

3. TOCA Touring Car Championship

Not only did this plummet price-wise when it came over all platinum, it also picked up dual shock compatibility along the way. Like, uh, cool.

4. Die Hard Trilogy

Three games on one CD. Surely this means they must all be shabby sub-standard cackola? Not true. Each one's a doozy and numero deux is still one of the best lightgun blasts the 'Station has to offer.

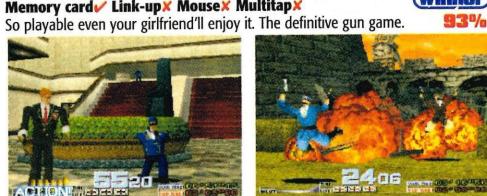
5. WipEout 2097

What's yer secret WipEout? How do you manage to stay so young-looking? Is it the speed, the souped-up graphics, the shit-kickin' soundtrack? Do tell...

The Knowledge: updated every month

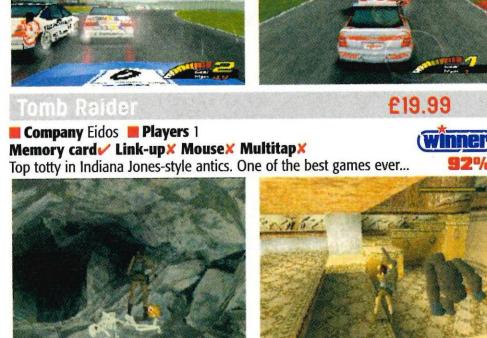
Time Commando £44.99
 Company EA ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Unusual, but fun. Slightly unwieldy controls. 81%

Time Crisis £59.99
 Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special Gcon 45
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 So playable even your girlfriend'll enjoy it. The definitive gun game. 93% **Winner**


Tobal No.1 £44.99
 Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 A fair beat 'em up improved greatly with the addition of a quest mode. 81% **Winner**


TOCA Touring Car Championship £19.99
 Company Codemasters ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Dual Shock pad
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 It was good before, but now it's dual shock compatible. Top stuff. 91% **Winner**


Tomb Raider £19.99
 Company Eidos ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Top toby in Indiana Jones-style antics. One of the best games ever... 92% **Winner**

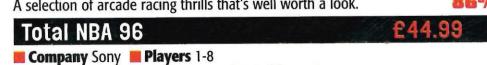

Tomb Raider 2 £44.99
 Company Eidos ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Bigger and bolder than the classic original. Lara's back! 95% **Winner**

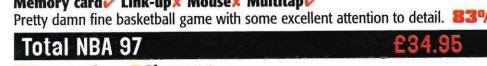

Tombi £39.99
 Company Sony ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Typically Jap-style cuteness fails to ruin an excellent platformer. 79% **Rent it**


Tommi Makinen Rally £39.99
 Company Europress ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Rally effort ain't much cop. In fact it's pants. 50% **50%**


Top Gun: Fire at Will £44.95
 Company Microprose ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Gun-ho movie spin-off not worth your effort tracking down. 66% **66%**


Total Drivin' £44.99
 Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 A selection of arcade racing thrills that's well worth a look. 86% **86%**

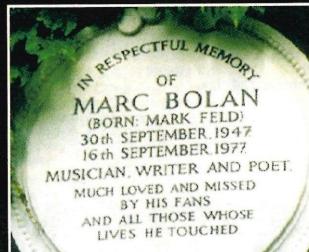

Total NBA 96 £44.99
 Company Sony ■ Players 1-8
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Pretty damn fine basketball game with some excellent attention to detail. 83% **83%**


Total NBA 97 £34.95
 Company Sony ■ Players 1-8
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Improved graphics and gameplay to make it a better game. 85% **85%**


Total NBA 98 £34.99
 Company Sony ■ Players 1-8 ■ Special Analogue/dual shock
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Good, but ONLY if you're a basketball fiend. 79% **Rent it**

Graves of the rich and famous

This month: Gods of rock



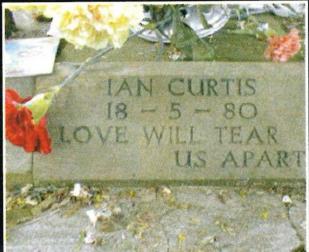
Marc Bolan Who?

Leader of T-Rex. He wrote such classics as 20th Century Boy and Metal Guru.

How'd he die?

Drove into a tree. Unwise.

When? 1977



Ian Curtis Who?

Seriously depressed singer with Joy Division, the band who went on to become New Order.

How'd he die?

He hung himself. Well.

When? 1980



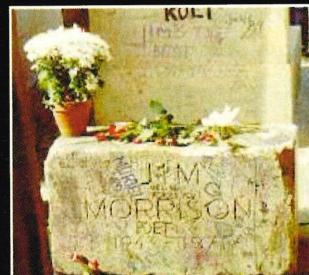
Stuart Sutcliffe Who?

One of the original Beatles members. He left. And then they became famous.

How'd he die?

Brain haemorrhage. Nasty.

When? 1962



Jim Morrison Who?

Lead singer with The Doors. Got his knob out a lot.

How'd he die?

Heart attack in the bath.

Should've used relaxing bath salts

When? 1971



Bon Scott Who?

Lead singer with Aussie metallers AC/DC.

How'd he die?

Choked on his vomit after a tasty

drugs cocktail.

When? 1980



Jimi Hendrix Who?

The original guitar god. Famed for playing with his teeth.

How'd he die?

Also not on speaking terms with his own vomit.

When? 1970

Tokyo Highway Battle

Company THQ ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Kind of a sub-Rage Racer game with average graphics. 77% **Rent it**

Toshinden 3

Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Derivative fighting game that would take a pasting from Namco any day... 76% **Rent it**

Transport Tycoon

Company Ocean ■ Players 1-4
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Build roads, railways, docks and airports in this great God sim. 86% **Rent it**

Trash It

Company CT ■ Players 1-4
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Platformer that has good ideas, but just not enough immediate action. 57% **Rent it**

Treasures of the Deep

Company Sony ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Sluggish submarine adventure-type game. 78% **Rent it**

True Pinball

Company Ocean ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

It may have four tables, it may be a good game, but The Web is better. 50% **Platinum**

Tunnel B1

Company Ocean ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Wipe-out breeds with Doom in this high speed shoot 'em up. 89% **Rent it**

Twisted Metal

Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Destroy the suburbs in this Mad Max-style car battle. 82% **Rent it**

Twisted Metal World Tour

Company Sony ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Good sequel even grander in thrills and spills than the original. 88% **Rent it**

Vandal Hearts

Company Konami ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Average graphics don't spoil playable and engrossing role-playing game. 86% **Rent it**

V-Ball Beach Volley Heroes

Company Funsoft ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X
 Kung-fu-esque volleyball effort that's plenty fun in two-player. 75% **Rent it**

Versailles

Company Cryo ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Even other point 'n' click adventures aren't as boring as this. 10% **Rent it**

Victory Boxing

Company JVC ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Deeper than a lot of fighting games and takes some getting into. 74% **Rent it**

Vigilante 8

Company Activision ■ Players 1-2
 Special Analogue pad, dual shock pad

Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Excellent mix of racing and carnage, Superb. 91% **Rent it**



Viper

Company Ocean ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Cacky controls spoil otherwise stonking 'copter shoot 'em up. 70% **Rent it**

Virtual Golf

Company Core Design ■ Players 1-4
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Nowhere near as good as the excellent Actua Golf. 57% **Rent it**

Virtual Pool

Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

This is a great pool game which is a pretty realistic simulation. 85% **Rent it**

VMX Racing

Company Funsoft ■ Players 1
 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X

Dirt bike racing game that looks like it's about a thousand years old. 50% **Rent it**

V-Rally	£44.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Seat-of-the-pants racing, 40 separate stages to keep you busy!	
VR Baseball	£44.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A fine conversion of the sport, but unlikely to attract too many Brits.	72%
VR Powerboat Racing	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Steering wheel, analogue, NegCon Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Speedboat racing sim that is waaaay bollocks.	40%
Vs	£39.99
■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X L.A. gang war beat 'em up that's fun but looks a little bit ugh.	63%
V Tennis	£44.95
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Mediocre tennis sim that's hard to be bothered about at all.	75%
Warcraft 2	£44.95
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad/Dual shock pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Excellent strategy game. No mouse/two-player link detract from gameplay.	88%
WarGames: Defcon 1	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad/Dual shock pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Full-on strategy/war-type thing. Excellent, actually.	90%
Wargods	£44.95
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X 3D fighting game with mushy graphics and lousy gameplay.	59%
Warhammer	£44.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Not much too look at, but depth of gameplay means it has more to offer.	86%
Warhammer II: Dark Omen	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse✓ Multitap X Loadsa depth in this goblin-infested fantasy war epic. Charge!	83%
Warhawk	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Instantly playable, though controls are tricky at first.	82%
Wayne Gretzky's 3D Hockey 98	£39.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ Fast and furious, but won't last long.	Rent it 74%
WCW Nitro	£39.99
■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Not bad as wrestling efforts go. But still...	63%
WCW vs The World	£44.99
■ Company THQ ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Brilliant wrestling game with 60 characters. No handbags or milk stouts...	88%
Wild 9	£44.99
■ Company Interplay ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Cool graphics and action in spades see to it this is adrenalin city.	90%
Wild Arms	£34.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A must for all hardcore RPG fans. Yes, really.	88%
Williams Arcade Classics	£44.99
■ Company GT ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Retro compilation with five good games out of six, including Defender...	89%
Wing Commander III	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Superb movie sequences mix it with poor gameplay in this space opera.	80%
Wing Commander IV	£44.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Better full motion video sequences... but worse gameplay.	50%
Wingover	£44.99
■ Company JVC ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Boring flying game overshadowed by Air Combat 2.	40%
WipEout	£19.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse X Multitap X Ultra-fast, ultra-stylish racer. A must for speed freaks...	Platinum 78%

WipEout 2097	£19.99
■ Company Psygnosis ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special NegCon/Wheel Memory card✓ Link-up✓ Mouse X Multitap X Bigger and better in every way than its great predecessor.	Platinum 94%
World Cup 98	£39.99
■ Company EA ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ Fast, tasty-lookin' footy sim that's cooking on gas.	90%
World Cup Golf	£39.99
■ Company US Gold ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Great graphics, but some of the courses can be imprecise.	80%
World League Basketball	£39.99
■ Company Mindscape ■ Players 1-8 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ World League Basketball? We'd rather down a pint of dog jism, thanks.	30%
World League Soccer	£39.99
■ Company Eidos ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X This is the cream of the crop when it comes to footy games. Buy it.	93%
Worms	£19.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Multiplayer joy will be yours to savor in this fabulous battle game...	Platinum 82%
Wreckin' Crew	£44.99
■ Company Telstar ■ Players 1-2 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Small car racing's a lot of laughs, if flawed.	Rent it 80%
WWF in your House	£44.95
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ Well below average wrestling game.	48%
WWF Warzone	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ Build your own fighter in this cool wrestler.	73%
WWF Wrestlemania	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-4 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap✓ Entertaining fighting game with some pretty deadly special moves.	83%
X2	£44.95
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A tedious shoot 'em up which is just way too difficult to master...	58%
X-Com: Enemy Unknown	£44.99
■ Company Microprose ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse✓ Multitap X Enjoy strategy gaming at its very best as you take on alien invaders	88%
X-Com: Terror from the Deep	£44.99
■ Company Microprose ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Pretty much X-Com: Enemy Unknown played underwater...	82%
Xenocracy	£39.99
■ Company Grolier ■ Players 1 ■ Special Analogue pad Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A dogshit of a game.	20%
X-Men: Children of the Atom	£44.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Superhero beat 'em up that's too slow to punch with the big boys.	75%
X-Men Vs Street Fighter	£44.99
■ Company Virgin ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X One for nostalgia buffs only, really, but it's still a good beat 'em up.	Rent it 74%
Z	£39.99
■ Company Sony ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X Robots slug it out in this tricky strategy effort.	80%
Zeitgeist [Jupiter Strike]	£39.99
■ Company Acclaim ■ Players 1 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse✓ Multitap X Slow, clumsy 3D shooting game which seriously lacks appeal.	43%
Zero Divide	£44.99
■ Company Ocean ■ Players 1-2 Memory card✓ Link-up X Mouse X Multitap X A sound enough fighting game, but nothing special.	72%

Chart

What's everyone else buying?

1 STAGE 6 01:53:02 PUSH IP2 START

Big blonde man and a panda. The sparks were bound to fly

2 TRIPLE H 1999 RECKLESS

WWF Warzone: ouch

3 ISS PRO 98: football

4 COLIN MCRAE: SCOTTISH RALLY

Colin McRae: Scottish

5 GRAN TURISMO: FAST

Gran Turismo: Fast

Key:

- (NE) New Entry
- (RE) Re-Entry
- (4) Position Last Month
- (-) Same Position

- 1. (NE) Tekken 3 (Sony)**
The mother of them all beats the rest.
- 2. (NE) WWF War Zone (Acclaim)**
Wrestle with this load o' Yanks...
- 3. (NE) ISS Pro 98 (Konami)**
Best footy game ever gets a revamp.
- 4. (1) Colin McRae Rally (Codemasters)**
Scots driving hero still holds in there.
- 5. (2) Gran Turismo (Sony)**
Top racer still in the driving seat.
- 6. (NE) C&C Retaliation (Virgin)**
More Commie-bashing japes.
- 7. (NE) Future Cop LAPD (EA)**
Californian future law enforcement.
- 8. (4) Premier Manager 98 (Gremlin)**
Last longer at Leeds than Mr George.
- 9. (NE) Baby Universe (Sony)**
Music, shapes, er... that's it.
- 10. (NE) NHL 99 (EA)**
Jolly American hockey sticks...

Spend £45 and get...

Each month we're gonna give you £45. But first you've got to prove you deserve it. Y'see, this is the money you'd normally spend on a game, but what if you had to spend it on something else? If you come up with a decent idea we'll put it into action and give you £45 for your troubles. This month we're blowing the dough on...

A million quid!

Well, not exactly. It's the chance to win a million quid, maybe more, 'cos for just under fifty notes you get a hefty wad of National Lottery tickets. The odds of winning the jackpot is loads better – rather than a 1 in 14 million chance of blagging the big one, the odds are cut to 1 in 310,751. OK, so it still ain't great, but you've got a wicked chance of coming away with at least... well, a tenner.



The pros

- Everyone wants to be a millionaire
- Gambling's cool, right?
- It'll be great checking off those winning numbers...
- You get to see Carol Smilie talking balls on TV
- You'll be great friends with your local lottery outlet
- Mates'll want to spend Saturday night with you

The cons

- The odds are still arse even with 45 tickets
- Loads of long lost relatives will suddenly get back in touch. Bastids
- You cry if you only come away with a tenner
- You've gotta sit through some shite pop band just to get the numbers

D'YOU RECKON YOU COULD COME UP WITH A WAY TO DEMOLISH 45 SMACKERS THAT'S MORE TASTELESS/UNPLEASANT/DANGEROUS/STUPID THAN BLOWING THE LOT ON LOTTO TICKETS? IF YOU RECKON YOU'RE UP TO THE CHALLENGE, SEND IN YOUR PROPOSAL. IF WE LIKE IT WE'LL GIVE YOU £45 TO PLAY WITH. CAN'T SAY FAIRER THAN THAT. ADDRESS YOUR ENTRIES TO: GIVE ME £45! AT THE USUAL ADDRESS: WE'RE GONNA BE DOING THIS FOR A WHILE, SO KEEP 'EM COMING...

MY TASTELESS/UNPLEASANT/DANGEROUS/STUPID/ IDEA FOR HOW TO SPEND £45 IS:

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.....
.....
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.....

IN NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS

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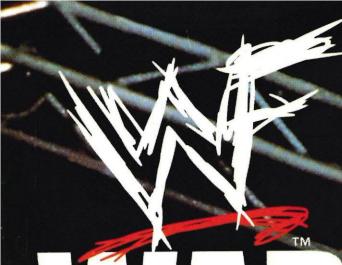
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